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THE TIMES

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Lawson urges Lamont to raise taxes by £6bn

■ Modest tax increases expected in today's Budget could be just a taste of tougher measures to come. Swingeing rises could be in the pipeline for next year

BY PHILIP WEBSTER AND ANATOLE KALETSKY

LORD Lawson last night urged Norman Lamont to raise taxes by £6 billion in today's Budget to cut the massive public sector deficit, adding that it would be a serious mistake if he did not.

The former Chancellor's intervention came as there were growing signs that Mr Lamont's speech could contain politically explosive details of swingeing tax increases — but not until next year. He is expected to limit the coming year's rises to £2 billion for fear of damaging the economic recovery.

Lord Lawson has been joined by other senior Conservatives, including Lord Howe, in pressing Mr Lamont to raise taxes by up to £10 billion to reduce public borrowing. But the Chancellor was believed to have rejected that advice on the grounds that the recovery was too fragile and the government's position was too precarious to withstand the shock of much higher taxes.



It now appears, however, that Mr Lamont could spell out plans to increase taxes by as much as £7 or £8 billion a year from 1994. The unexpected strength of the economy, the apparent willingness of many Conservative backbenchers to stomach higher taxes and the positive reaction in America to President Clinton's budget plans are said to have impressed both the Chancellor and the prime minister. Between them, these factors may have swayed them to unveil a bolder Budget today than had earlier been planned.

Among other measures that could be announced is a big increase in national insurance contributions, which would raise the effective rate of income tax on all but the lowest paid from next year. There could also be a firm commitment to extend value-added tax to zero-rated items such as food, children's clothes, reading materials and public transport. The Chancellor is further likely to announce the phasing out of mortgage tax relief and use the extra revenue to extend the 20 per cent income tax band.

Mr Lamont's speech, which could last more than an hour and a half, is expected to include radical measures designed to boost his own and the government's fortunes. There will be a package to help the long-term unemployed and encourage small businesses. He is also likely to boost the construction industry by announcing a series of projects, including the high-speed Channel tunnel rail link, that could qualify for joint financing by the public and private sectors under new Treasury guidelines. An announcement on two possible routes could come tomorrow. Mr Lamont is also expected to refer to the £300 million plant by British Rail and BAA to build an express rail service from central London to Heathrow.

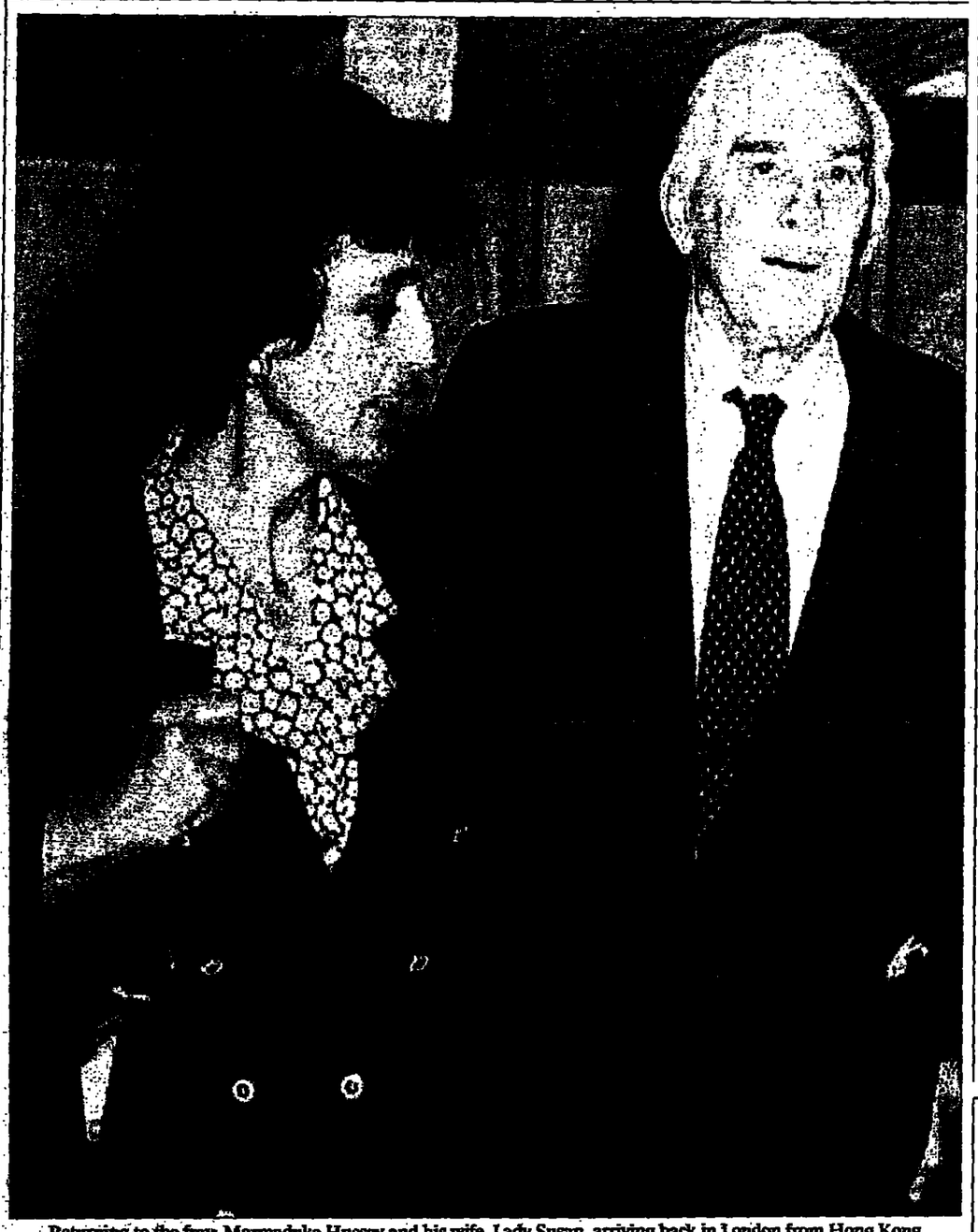
Conservative MPs, who regarded Lord Lawson's last-minute intervention as distinctly unhelpful, doubted last night whether the Chancellor would heed his one-time boss's advice on taxation and were concerned that Lord Lawson's remarks could lessen the impact on the markets of the more modest measures that have been widely predicted.

Margaret Thatcher's long-serving Chancellor had told a conference of City executives in Westminster: "Urgent action is badly needed to cut back on public spending", and while he was not in favour of increasing taxation, he added: "When it has to be done, it has to be done. If the Chancellor is to make significant early inroads into the budget deficit, he has no option but to increase tax substantially."

The deficit had reached worrying proportions and it would be wrong for Mr Lamont to wait until his next Budget in November. Lord Lawson compared the situation with 1981 when Sir Geoffrey Howe decided to

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Returning to the fray: Marmaduke Hussey and his wife, Lady Susan, arriving back in London from Hong Kong

China threatens 'treacherous' Patten with retaliation

BY CATHERINE SAMPSON IN PEKING

THE conflict between Britain and China over the future of Hong Kong blew up yesterday when Li Peng, the Chinese prime minister, openly accused Chris Patten of treachery and threatened reprisals over his plans for democracy in the colony.

The governor had "perfidiously and unilaterally" proposed important changes in Hong Kong's political system in breach of the agreement for handing the territory over to Chinese rule in 1997, Mr Li said, adding: "The British government shall be held exclusively responsible for all serious consequences arising from its action."

Mr Li did not indicate what those consequences might be, but his remarks at the opening of the National People's Congress sent the Hong Kong stock market plunging by 315 points, wiping out a month of gains. There has been speculation that Peking will set up a shadow Hong Kong government, weakening the British administration.

Mr Patten declined to comment on the Chinese leader's speech, but in London, Douglas Hurd told the Commons that Britain remained ready for talks at any time. Britain has been pressing since October for negotiations on broadening democracy in Hong Kong, but China has been prevaricating. On Friday, an exasperated Mr Patten published his proposals for extending the franchise for the 1995 elections so that most of Hong Kong's legislative council will be democratically elected; since then, the Chinese attacks have intensified.

These culminated in yesterday's unprecedented direct assault on Mr Patten, which was cheered loudly by the 3,000 delegates at the Peking congress. Mr Li said that China's resumption of sovereignty over Hong Kong was a sacred right, "which shall not be interfered with or sabotaged in any way", but Mr Patten's proposals were "designed to impede the smooth transfer of power". The official Xinhua news agency also joined the barrage of criticism, reporting that Hong Kong deputies to the Chinese parliament were also angry about the governor's attitude.

In the Commons, Mr Hurd said that even in the past week he had been reasonably hopeful that procedural obstacles to "talks about talks" with China could be overcome, but Britain would not accept the suggestion that the role of representatives from the Hong Kong government in the discussions should be downgraded. The foreign secretary said that Mr Patten's proposals represented the right way forward, "but we have said from the start that we are open to alternative ideas from the people of Hong Kong or from the Chinese side". China had simply opposed the proposals without offering an alternative.



Hurd: says Britain will talk at any time

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Pressure grows for Hussey to resign

BY ALEXANDRA FREAN, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

MARMADUKE Hussey, the chairman of the BBC, is under growing pressure to step down because of the turmoil caused by the tax status of John Birt, the director-general.

As Mr Hussey returned to London from Hong Kong yesterday, where he had been a guest of Chris Patten, the colony's governor, public support for Mr Birt continued to emerge. In a letter published in *The Times* today, Lady Howe, the deputy chairwoman of the Equal Opportunities Commission, and a number of eminent public figures, expressed their support for Mr Birt, who has been criticised for tax avoidance on his salary.

A number of governors and BBC board members privately expressed their lack of confidence in Mr Hussey, however. One board member said: "An increasing number of people are suggesting that we could keep John Birt, and that it is the chairman who should go."

The National Union of Journalists, which has also written to *The Times* on behalf of "many" BBC journalists, called for both men to resign.

One governor said yesterday that much of the attention surrounding the disclosure that Mr Birt was paid through his own private company could have been avoided if the chairman had convened an emergency meeting of governors last week.

Another governor, Dr Gwyn Jones, repeated his demands for some "straight answers" from Mr Hussey, who originally gave Mr Birt's tax arrangements his blessing.

Speculation was growing yesterday that the disclosures were made by a governor. One said: "The governors were informed about a month ago about Mr Birt's freelance contract. The press revelations came immediately after that. Maybe it is just a coincidence."

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Prince visits Bosnia troops

BY MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

THE Prince of Wales will fly to Bosnia today for a seven-hour visit to meet some of the 2,500 British troops involved in the United Nations humanitarian operation.

He will be flown by Royal Navy Sea King helicopter from *Ark Royal*, the aircraft carrier now in the Adriatic 60 miles off the coast of former Yugoslavia. The carrier, with two frigates and three support vessels, is a back-up for the troops.

The prince is the colonel-in-chief of the Cheshire Regiment. During his visit he will meet Lieutenant-Colonel Bob Stewart, commander of the regiment. They will meet at Camp Redoubt, which was built by Royal Engineers on a mountain track halfway between Tomislavgrad in south-west Bosnia and Vitez in central Bosnia.

The prince will initially be flown by helicopter from Italy to *Ark Royal* and then taken by a Sea King from 845 Naval Air Squadron to the British logistics base, Divulje barracks, near Split airport in Croatia. He will spend an hour there.

Up to 100 men from the Cheshires are expected to travel by Warrior infantry fighting vehicles from Vitez, the main British base, to Camp Redoubt to meet the prince after he is flown by helicopter from Split to the mountain site. He will not be going to Vitez.

After an hour with the Cheshires, the prince will be flown to Metkovic, a town on the southern Croatian coast that is an aid distribution centre for the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). He will meet officials from the UNHCR and from the Overseas Development Administration before being flown back to Split.

Yesterday, Brigadier Andrew Cumming, commander of the British forces in Bosnia and Croatia, who will escort the prince during the day, said the trip will be "a great boost" to morale. The Cheshires are scheduled to be replaced in May by the Prince of Wales's Own Regiment of Yorkshire, now training in Germany for the Bosnian operation.

The prince will leave Split late this afternoon on an aircraft of the Royal Flight to return home.

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Health authority names Bolton Aids doctor

BY RONALD FAUX

THE trainee GP who died after contracting Aids and worked shifts in casualty at the Bolton Royal Infirmary was named yesterday as Yarab Mudrik Almahawi, 33, from Saudi Arabia.

It was revealed that Almahawi trained at Queen's University, Belfast, and had taken part in up to 100 operations during two years at the South Tyrone general hospital in Dungannon. He was transferred to a non-surgical unit when health officials became aware of his condition. He then moved to a a Belfast hospital before his appointment in Bolton as a trainee GP. Wirim Bhatiani, a partner in the practice, said that it was only after Almahawi had accepted the job that he revealed he was HIV positive. Advice confirmed that there would be no risk to patients. "The practice was not aware at any time that the doctor was involved in sessional work at the hospital. I do not know why he went to work in casualty . . . there is no doubt that he should have exercised better judgment."

Bolton health authority, which named the man, and the family health services authority said their concern had been for the patients and everything had been done to provide counselling.

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MATTHEW PARRIS
POLITICAL SKETCH

Come on girls, make 'em squirm

When John Knox first described "*the monstrous* regiment of women," he must have seen a vision of yesterday at Westminster. It was all-party women's day. Celebrations included all-female synchronised whingeing, a girl's boxing *match and a "throw a wet* sponge at the minister in the Lord Chancellor's department" (women only) stall.

We knew we were in for a punch-up when social security minister Ann Widdecombe strode up in flower-printed navy and white cotton, looking like a militant duvet. Limbering up, she knocked a couple of Labour men for six, hurling lists of figures at them and *rasping that they should* be ashamed of themselves, while Dame Elaine Kellett-*Bowman (C, Lancaster)* egged her on in a series of attagirl-type squeaks. A little man on the Opposition side whispered something about hungry, freezing old soldiers in despair at the meanness of Miss Widdecombe's department, whimpering: "Who won the war?" She bulldozed him with an impressive rant. "*Yes*, Hooray!" shrieked the dame.

But Miss W was just *warming up. Next she was* joined by Mrs Marion Roe (C, Broxbourne), for a scrap. Their plan was to ambush Betty Boothroyd. Mrs Roe was to ask Miss Widdecombe: "How many pensioner households had a telephone in 1979; and in 1990?" Miss W would then tell Mrs R that under the Tories more old dears have telephones. Then Mrs R would ask Miss W whether *this was equally true of* central heating. And, before Miss B could rule them both out of order (the question was about telephones) Miss W would tell the chamber how good life was for the elderly now she was in charge.

But Madam Speaker would not be ganged up on *like this. She stopped* Miss Widdecombe in her tracks and told her to relate central heating to telephones or sit down. "Well, they're both consumer durables," challenged the truculent Miss W. Madam felled her with a single blow: her microphone was switched off. Game, set and match to Miss Boothroyd.

A new women's team now entered the ring for questions to the "male" MP representing the church commisioners.

A crawler (male) had asked about the costs of removing male priests who refused to work with female ones. Assured that this was manageable, he told Miss B he was proud to serve under the first woman Speaker and could not wait to bow the knee to the first woman bishop.

Madam smiled indulgently. But Dame Elaine Kellett-Bowman and Lady Olga *Maitland shouted "No!".* These two women oppose the idea of female priests. It *must be said that they* provide a powerful argument against it.

Barracking from the dame continued, minutes later when Gwynneth Dunwoody (Lab, Crewe and Nantwich) and Teresa Gorman (C, Billericay) ambushed and *beat up a defenceless, balding* man answering for the Lord Chancellor. Their question concerned the paucity of female judges. Mrs Gorman (who tells MPs that rapists should "have their goolies cut off") knocked the minister down with statistics. Before he could get up he was flattened by La Dunwoody, a powerful blonde with the delicacy of an Aeroflot air hostess. She *told him that any woman* who could deal with a husband could deal with male criminals. Both ladies wanted more female judges.

Advised that, in time, more women would be appointed, Mrs Dunwoody, breathing heavily, cried: "It's always like that here. The men *all* tell you that if *you wait long enough, some*thing will happen." A number of small, bald, male MPs giggled nervously.

Consultants say almost half of pits due to close could still be economic

British Coal 'ignored criteria to close pit'

By Ross Tieman and Jill Sherman

ONE of the ten pits closed last October by British Coal, Grimethorpe colliery, was economically viable and did not meet the corporation's criteria for closure, according to a consultant's study for the Department of Industry.

*Markham Main pit had the poten*tial to become viable and Taff Merthyr was closed with premature haste, according to the report by consultants John T Boyd.

The American consultants have indicated that between seven and 14 of the 31 pits scheduled for closure by British Coal, with the loss of 30,000 *jobs, could be economic.*

British Coal said "full consideration" would be given to Boyd's conclusions. However, it insisted that any attempt to save pits on the closure list would lead only to others being shut because demand for coal from the electricity generators had fallen.

Downing Street sources yesterday made clear that decisions about the future of individual mines would be taken by British Coal. Officials also pointed out that British Coal had advised the Department of Trade and Industry that the two pits which the report suggested could have a future were not viable.

Mr Heseltine commissioned Boyd to examine the ten pits after a High Court ruling in favour of the National Union of Mineworkers and the Union of Democratic Mineworkers said the review procedure used by British Coal had been inadequate.

In an earlier study of the 21 pits *earmarked for closure but still* operating, Boyd concluded that "between six and 13 pits have potential to be *economically viable*".

The latest report concluded that the Grimethorpe pit near Barnsley, South Yorkshire, could make an operating profit provided *that new* coal preparation facilities were installed and performance at the coal faces improved by 20 per cent in the next three years.

In addition, the Markham Main colliery, near Doncaster, South Yorkshire, could be viable if laws restricting the length of miners' shifts were changed and new mining techniques *adopted*, the consultants said. Malcolm Edwards, the former commercial director of British Coal, has signalled his faith in the future of Markham Main by asking to be allowed to take it over.

The consultants also criticised British Coal for prematurely closing Taff Merthyr colliery in South Wales. "A settlement should be negotiated between *British Coal* and the mineworkers based on their net loss of earnings," the consultants said.

Ken Hancock, Grimethorpe NUM branch secretary, said: "The *pit has been profitable* for the past three years." The NUM believes work could resume on the pit's Parkgate seam within seven days and the Fenton seam within two to three weeks. But machinery needed to open new faces has been removed from the mine and only 60 face *workers are still available.*

HIV puts doctors at greater risk than patients

By Jeremy Laurance, Health Services Correspondent

MEDICAL *staff are at much* greater risk of contracting HIV from a patient than *patients are of contracting it* from a doctor. There have been 148 cases world-wide in which health workers are known or presumed to have contracted HIV from patients, but no confirmed case in which a patient has been infected.

Doubts have been cast on the only case — that of a *Florida dentist — in which* patients are alleged to have been infected. A paper in *Nature* last month suggested that the five patients with HIV may have been infected in other ways.

Demands for screening of medical staff have increased following cases of HIV infected doctors in Kent, Mid Glamorgan and Bolton and a dentist in London which have come to light in the past week. *Health experts said that* screening for HIV all staff who perform operations or other invasive procedures would cost up to £50 million a year to eliminate a negligible risk.

MPs have backed the call for screening, saying the public has a right to protection. But the health department said it remained opposed to *compulsory testing.*

The health department has summoned leaders of doctors, dentists and nurses to a meeting with Dr Kenneth Calman, *the chief medical officer, to* discuss strengthening guidelines for staff which require them to disclose whether they have HIV or think they may be at risk.

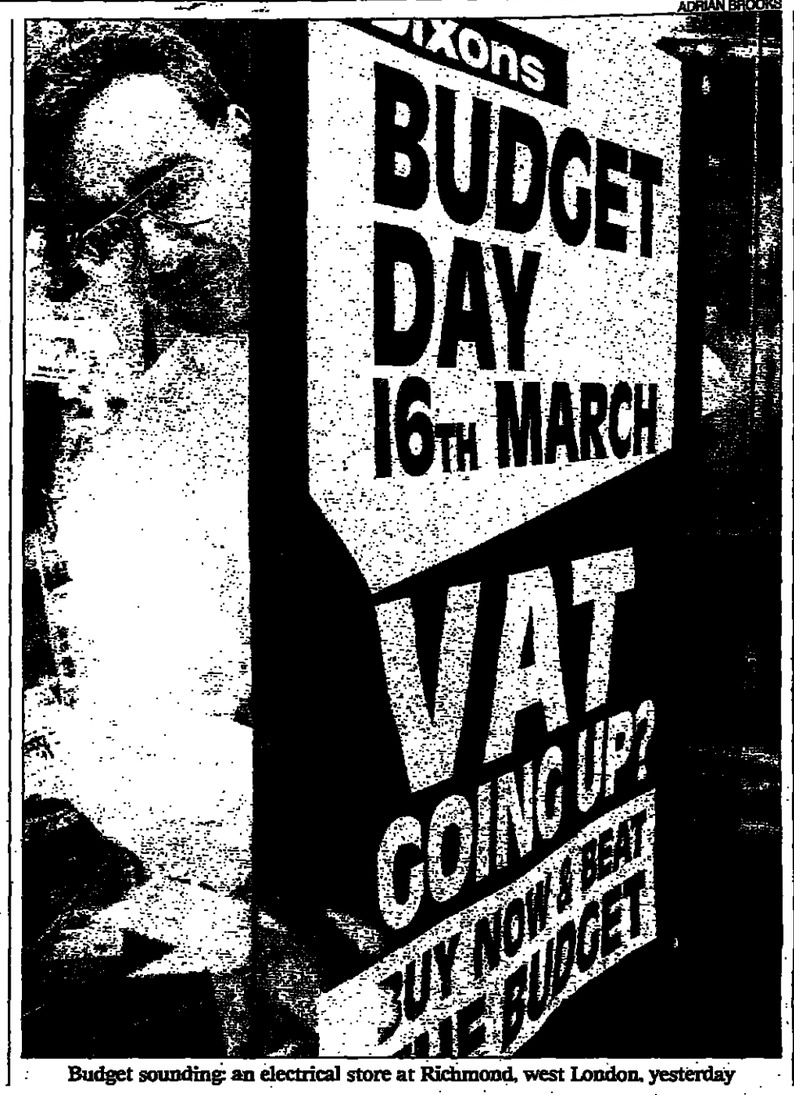
If introduced, testing would have to be repeated at least every three months and would have to include dentists, GPs and midwives as well as surgeons, obstetricians and gynaecologists, said Professor Michael Adler, head of the *department of genitourinary* medicine at the Middlesex hospital, London, and a former member of the government's advisory committee on Aids.

Surgeons would be likely to demand testing for all patients awaiting surgery, to protect themselves. Professor Adler said: "I can understand the public reaction but you have to look at the science. There has been no confirmed case in the *world of a doctor infecting* a patient with HIV."

The thousands of former patients besieging telephone helplines in Bolton, Mid Glamorgan and Kent are casualties of the propaganda war against Aids. Warnings that the disease represents the greatest threat to human health this century have created *a panic that has left the* public confused about the real risks.

GP names, page 1

ADRIAN BROOKS



Budget sounding: an electrical store at Richmond, west London, yesterday

Kidney sale doctor back at work

*ONE of three doctors disci*plined for the sale by Turkish peasants of kidneys for transplants was yesterday granted permission to resume private practice.

Michael Bewick, 56, of Sydenham, south London, was barred from undertaking private kidney transplants three years ago after a 35-day *hearing of the General Medi*cal Council's professional conduct committee, the longest in its history.

He was found guilty of serious professional misconduct over the removal of kidneys from four illiterate Turks at the Wellington Humana hospital in St John's Wood, north London, between June and November 1988.

The same committee took only a few minutes yesterday to decide to remove the restriction. It took into account Mr Bewick's "quite extraordinary contribution" to kidney transplantation. He can resume private practice from May 7.

Mr Bewick's solicitor, Ralph Shipway, said *that since* the case he had been carrying out transplants for the national health service, working under supervision, at hospitals in London and Brighton.

At the original hearing, Raymond Crockett, who helped organise the sale of the kidneys from the four Turks, was ordered to be struck off. *The third doctor*, Michael Joyce, was ordered to confine his professional practice to his own speciality of urological surgery.

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Thatcher enlists monetarist

By Sheila Gunn
Political Correspondent

ONE OF the so-called seven wise men who has been advising Norman Lamont, Tim Congdon, has been called in by Baroness Thatcher on the *eve of the Budget to help her* vindicate the monetarist strategy she pursued as prime *minister. She also wants to* counter criticism made by her former Chancellor, Lord Lawson.

As she finalises her memoirs, due to be published this autumn, Professor Congdon has been employed to strengthen her denunciation of Lord Lawson's decision to shadow the mark.

The former prime minister's decision to use the services of the arch-monetarist Dr Congdon indicates Lady Thatcher's determination to continue her campaign against the Euro*pean exchange-rate mecha*nism.

The memoirs are expected to answer *in detail* the complaints made by Lord Lawson in his autobiography *The View from Number 11* and to explain why, against her better judgment, Lady Thatcher allowed herself to be talked into joining the ERM.

Dr Congdon is no stranger to controversy. He fell out last week with colleagues on the panel appointed to supply the Treasury with a range of independent economic fore*casts when he cast doubt* on their intellectual competence. Never afraid of disagreeing with fellow economists, he alone of the seven argued for a £12 billion tax increase to be announced in today's Budget to reduce the rising public *sector borrowing requirement.*

In an open letter Dr Congdon, an adviser at Gerrard & National, the City discount house, and a professor at Cardiff business school, accused the other panellists of being grossly incompetent in *failing to take adequate* account of money balances.

Although reluctant to disclose details of his role in the Thatcher memoirs, Dr Congdon told *The Times* that he knew "what went wrong" during Lord Lawson's chancellorship, although he was not involved in policymaking at the time.

Lawson in call for big tax increase

Continued from page 1

increase taxation by almost 2 per cent of gross domestic product, representing some £12 billion in today's terms.

Mr Lamont should, he said, increase taxes by 1 per cent of GDP, not by increasing basic or the higher rate of tax or corporation tax, but "by carrying forward the tax reforms of *the 1980s". To defer decisions* until later this year, as some had advocated, would be "politically foolish and counter-productive". If Mr Lamont took the difficult steps now, his Budget could prove the turning point in the government's fortunes.

Lord Lawson's prescription was swiftly deplored by senior Tory MPs. Sir Geoffrey Johnson-Smith, a member of the 1922 committee executive, said: "I cannot think of a worse suggestion. It will add to people's burdens and de*press their hopes just at a time* when there are hopes for believing we are over the worst of the recession." Another Tory MP simply remarked: "What a nerve."

Labour meanwhile made a final plea to Mr Lamont to cut the number of jobless and help industry. Gordon Brown, the shadow chancellor, said any other Budget would be a betrayal of Britain.

He then set out Labour's plans, including industrial modernisation, measures to improve employment, help for construction through the phased release of councils' capital receipts, and new incentives for manufacturers.

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CORRECTION

A *report (January 8)* wrongly suggested that the chief constable of South Yorkshire, Mr R. B. Wells, is in favour of the American side-handled baton as part of protection for police officers. Mr Wells does not support the use of the baton and will not do so until it has been subjected to rigorous trial.

Recording may help free trapped whales

Sound recordings of sperm whales may be played to a school of six such whales to lure them into deep water from the natural harbour of Scapa Flow in the Orkneys, where they appear to have been trapped for three weeks (Gillian Bowditch writes). Experts will meet in Orkney today to plan an escape route for the whales. John Goold, a marine expert *from North Wales, is expected to attend* the meeting in the offices of Scottish Natural Heritage in Kirkwall with tapes of sperm whales recorded off the Azores. Dr Tony Martin, of the Sea Mammal Research Unit, Cambridge, will explore the possibility of luring the whales from the shallow waters of Scapa Flow, where they are liable to beach themselves, by playing the recordings to them.

Dr Martin said: "Sperm whales eat about a tonne of food a day. No one knows how long they can go without food and hopefully we will not find out on this occasion. The whales almost certainly do not want to be where they are. I think we could mount a successful *rescue mission." He believes that* luring the whales with recordings of their species may prove difficult but is willing to consider it. "We don't know what the whales were *saying when* the recordings were made. They may have been saying 'keep away', which could drive the whales towards the shore." It is the fourth time this *century that sperm whales* have been sighted off Orkney. Normally they would not come within 100 miles of the British coast.

Belfast man shot dead

A Roman Catholic man was shot dead by Loyalists in the Newtownabbey area of North Belfast yesterday. Police said that Robert Shaw, 56, of Larne, co. Antrim, was sitting in the driver's seat of a van at Quay Lane, on the shores of Belfast Lough, when a gunman approached *and shot him* twice in the chest. He died at the scene. A car thought to have been used by the gunman was later found abandoned on a nearby Loyalist estate. Mr Shaw was the *18th victim* of the troubles this year.

Governor's son killed

A son of Robin Leigh-Pemberton, governor of the Bank of England, has died in a car crash in Zimbabwe. Thomas Leigh-Pemberton, 30, who ran a safari business in Harare, was killed in the early hours of Sunday morning when his car crashed into a barrier and a lamppost. His father, who is on a trip to Hong Kong, was told of his son's death yesterday.

Drug find at school

Six boys have been expelled from a *public school in Oxford* for possessing cannabis. Police said they would not be taking action against the boys from St Edward's School because the *amount of drugs* seized was said to be minute. Douglas Bader, the second world war flying ace, was one of the school's distinguished old boys.

Salmon to feed mink

Farmed salmon that were contaminated by the *Braer* tanker oilspill off the Shetlands in January are to be turned into silage and fed to mink. A Norwegian company is to collect up to 600,000 two-year-old fish. They will be killed humanely *and turned into* feed for the mink, which are reared for their fur and are not part of the food chain.

Rugby player dies after match clash with rival

BY JOHN GOODBODY, SPORTS NEWS CORRESPONDENT

A RUGBY Union forward who received severe head injuries on Saturday after a clash with a rival player in a junior club match at Hendon, north-west London, died yesterday in the Royal London Hospital.

Both the police and rugby officials said they would be investigating the death of Seamus Lavelle, 25, of Edgware, north London, who collapsed and stopped breathing following an incident with a player from the opposing club, Centaur.

A member of the Centaur team was released without charge on police bail on Sunday.

Mr Lavelle was flown by air ambulance to hospital on Saturday afternoon, but surgeons decided against emergency surgery and put the player on a life support machine. He was died in the intensive care unit with his wife, Josephine, at his bedside. A post-mortem examination will take place today.

Det Insp Michael Anderson, who is leading the investigation, said: "We are keeping an open mind about the whole incident. We will be interviewing everyone who was at the game, who may have seen what happened. That includes the teams, the officials and any spectators."

In the 170-year history of English rugby union, no player has been charged following a death of a rival on the pitch. All recorded deaths on the field in Rugby Union are believed to have been due to accidents, which have claimed the three lives in the past seven years.

The Middlesex merit table match, in which Centaur was leading 22-10, was abandoned after Mr Lavelle collapsed.

Dr Peter Bromley, who was in the air ambulance, described Mr Lavelle as "desperately unlucky", adding: "There was no apparent injury.

"It is possible he had a weakness or a congenital defect, but we will have to wait for the post-mortem to find that out."

Dr Bromley said that when he arrived at Hendon, 40 minutes after the incident, Mr Lavelle had stopped breathing.

Robert Ham, a brain surgeon at the hospital in Whitechapel, east London, said: "There was severe swelling of the brain which could not be dealt with by surgery. The patient's treatment was all non-surgical.

"The swelling that showed up on the scan was severe, but it is not like a blood clot that can be removed to relieve pressure on the brain."

John Brown, Hendon's deputy president, said: "Seamus was a man's man, a gentle giant with a tremendous sense of humour."

He had played for the Hendon Colts team until 1986, when he graduated to the first team.

Dudley Wood, secretary of the Rugby Football Union (RFU), said the governing body would be receiving a report from the referee. "The Middlesex County Union will decide what further steps to take after seeing the referee's report. Sadly, people die playing every sport. About 300,000 people in England play rugby regularly."

Over the past 15 years, the RFU has been examining the laws of the game to reduce dangerous incidents. In 1982, it amended the scrummage laws to avoid collapses. However, the previous weekend, another Hendon player was taken to hospital suffering from spinal injuries caused when a scrum collapsed.

The heaviest sentence believed to have been imposed on a Rugby Union player occurred in 1988 when Steven Lloyd of Dings Crusaders was jailed at Bristol for 18 months for causing grievous bodily harm to Steven Oakley of Bishopston.

☐ John Buckley, a Rotherham United footballer, was in a coma yesterday after fracturing his skull in a clash of heads with a defender during the second division game against Plymouth.



Lavelle: described by his team as 'a gentle giant'



CARL RUTHERFORD

Touch of colour: two-year-old Kirsty Prisk, who is visually impaired, lights up an electric plasma sphere being used to help disabled children at Middlesbrough General Hospital to improve their hand-to-eye co-ordination. The sphere was spotted at an agricultural show by Terry Sutcliffe, a planner with Cleveland County Council (Nigel Hawkes writes). Mr Sutcliffe's three-year-old son Philip attends a unit at the hospital where 60 under-fives handicapped by cerebral palsy and other disabilities are treated. When touched, the football-sized device generates harmless electrical discharges in many colours which glow in spectacular fashion. Mr Sutcliffe approached Nuclear Electric, who agreed to donate a £450 sphere to the hospital. Kate Morris, who runs the unit, said: "We would never have known it existed if he hadn't drawn it to our attention. It is a lovely and different way to encourage the children. They love it and are responding very well."

Old Bailey told gunman shot PC dead at point-blank range

BY MICHAEL HORSNELL

A SPECIAL constable was shot dead and his colleague severely wounded by two gunmen after the policemen stopped their car for a routine check, the Old Bailey was told yesterday. Later the two gunmen cornered two officers who pursued them and bullets from a Kalashnikov rifle "danced on the road" around their car.

Paul Magee, 42, unemployed, and Michael O'Brien, 28, from Belfast, deny the murder of special constable Glenn Goodman, the attempted murders of PC Alexander Kelly, PC Mark Whitehouse and PC Susan Larkin, and possessing a firearm.

John Nutting, for the prosecution, said that early on June 7 last year PC Goodman and PC Kelly stopped a red Ford Sierra car on the A64 near Tadcaster, North Yorkshire. The two occupants, who had Irish accents, gave false names and an unconvincing account of their movements.

PC Kelly was using his car radio when he saw the passenger door of the Sierra open. Mr Nutting said: "Magee got out. As he got out he adjusted his trousers and PC Kelly thought he was about to urinate. But instead Mr Magee turned and reached into the rear of the Sierra.

"Two yards from the special constable, Magee raised both arms together, holding them out in front of him in the combat position, and to his horror PC Kelly saw a handgun protruding from Magee's clenched fists. Magee fired twice at point-blank range into PC Goodman's chest."

Mr Magee allegedly then fired at PC Kelly. The officer was hit four times and a fifth bullet was found embedded in his radio handset.

Mr Nutting said the men drove off in the Sierra, reaching up to 100mph. They was spotted by PC Mark Whitehouse and PC Susan Larkin, who caught up with the car near the village of Burton Salmon, where it stopped.

Mr O'Brien allegedly got out with a Kalashnikov sawn-off rifle and took aim at the police car. PC Whitehouse pushed his companion's head beneath the dashboard to save her and reversed the car at speed to get out of the way. But the officers were trapped when their car collided with a fence and the Sierra pursued them.

By then nine bullets had hit the Peugeot and PC Whitehouse feared for his life as the gunman advanced, the court was told. But a private car approached and the two men drove off.

Later the Sierra was abandoned by the two Irishmen, who made off into woods and lived rough for several days, Mr Nutting said. They were arrested separately in Pontefract, West Yorkshire, on June 11. Shopkeepers alerted police when the two men bought fresh clothing and acted suspiciously.

The case continues today.

SAS soldiers refuse to appear at inquest

BY EDWARD GORMAN, IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

TEN SAS soldiers who were involved in the ambush of three IRA men in co. Tyrone more than four years ago have refused to give evidence at their inquest, a coroner said yesterday.

John Leckey, the coroner at Enniskillen, co. Fermanagh, told a jury on the opening day of the inquest into the deaths of Michael Gerard Harte, 29, his brother Martin, 23, and their brother-in-law Brian Mullin, 26, that only three members of the 13-strong SAS team would be cross-examined.

He said the soldiers who would appear had been granted a public interest immunity certificate, signed by Sir Patrick Mayhew, the Northern Ireland secretary, and would give evidence from behind screens to prevent their identification.

Mr Leckey added that only the statements to the police of those who had declined to appear could be submitted, a "less-than-perfect situation".

The Harte brothers and Brian Mullin, all from Six Mile Cross, co. Tyrone, died trying to kill a former UDR soldier who had apparently stopped to mend a puncture on his lorry on a country road near Omagh in August, 1988.

However, Mr Leckey said, the security forces had been tipped off and when the IRA team arrived on the scene in a stolen car they were caught in a hail of bullets fired by soldiers hidden along the side of the road.

He said that the three dead men were found to be wearing boiler suits, hoods and gloves and three weapons — two rifles and a handgun — were recovered from the car. One of the rifles had discharged 16 shots during the incident.

The coroner said that one of the soldiers who would be giving evidence was the leader of the Army unit, who had taken the place of the former UDR man and driven his lorry along the road to the point where the ambush occurred.

The inquest continues.

Irish race over for the crack

BY RICHARD EVANS
RACING CORRESPONDENT

FATHER Sean Breen, parish priest of Templeogue, south of Dublin, yesterday set off on his annual pilgrimage to Cheltenham, where he will be joined this afternoon by tens of thousands of fellow devotees.

The tell-tale dog collar will be absent as he takes his place for the twenty-fifth time in the stands at Prestbury Park racecourse for the opening day of the National Hunt festival. For three days, the form book will take precedence over the Good Book, as jump racing fans enjoy what the Irish call "the crack".

Punters will wage about £60 million on the outcome of the 20 races at the festival, including £10 million on the Gold Cup.

Stories of gambling exploits will abound as the high rollers of the turf are drawn to Cheltenham like moths to a flame. In 1986, shortly before the Gold Cup, the Irish taoiseach and his finance minister reputedly held a crisis meeting to try to discover why Irish banks were suddenly running short of cash. According to Irish folklore, vast amounts were being withdrawn to bet on Dawn Run, the Irish-trained favourite. Fortunately for the Irish economy, the mare won.

Festival preview, page 41

Girl joyrider aged 14 killed in police chase

BY IAN MURRAY

A GIRL aged 14 died at the wheel of a stolen high-performance car early yesterday in one of several car chases involving teenage joyriders and police.

In another incident patrol cars chased a 15-year-old driver for three hours at speeds of up to 100mph before he turned into a cul de sac and was forced to stop.

In a third chase, cars from two police forces covered 70 miles in 45 minutes behind a car driven by one of six boys aged between 13 and 15. The chase ended when the car ran out of petrol.

The girl who died was trapped inside the stolen Rover Metro GTI after a two-mile 70 mph chase through Birmingham. The Metro, which accelerated after a police patol car turned on its flashing blue light, hit a kerb, somersaulted, slid across a dual carriageway and struck a lamp post.

Two teenage boys who were in the car escaped injury. Last night two boys were helping police with enquiries into the incident and about another missing car.

Chief Supt Richard Chidley of West Midlands police traffic division said the two officers had complied fully with guidelines for following vehicles. "This tragic incident only underlines the dangers of young people illegally driving cars," he said.

The dead girl was Sally Ann Cattell, who had been living in care at a children's home at her family's request for the past month. The two boys with her, aged 16 and 17, also lived in the home.

The longest chase was in southeast London, Kent and Surrey and began when police approached two 15-year-old boys in a stolen Vauxhall Astra at Sidcup, Kent. The car sped off on a 120-mile journey, frequently driving on the wrong side of the road, ignoring traffic lights and one-way restrictions and going the wrong way at roundabouts until it turned into a dead end and the boys tried to escape on foot.

The other chase was through Hampshire and Wiltshire and began when police noticed a stolen Vuaxhall Astra in the centre of Southampton. They tried to stop it, but it made off towards Bournemouth, then north to Salisbury where Wiltshire police joined the 90mph chase.

The car circled the city and sped towards Warminster, but stopped at Heytesbury where it ran out of petrol. Four boys were arrested immediately and two others were arrested several hours later.

Police said that all the boys arrested were living at children's homes in Hampshire.



Sally Cattell: died at wheel of a stolen car

Freed rapist struck after eight days

BY RICHARD FORD
HOME CORRESPONDENT

A SERIAL rapist who was released from prison only to rape again eight days later was yesterday jailed for 12 years after a court was told that since the age of 13 he had had urges to sexually assault women.

Peter Musgrove, 20, a former mechanic, was freed from prison on licence after two years of a five-and-a-half year youth custody sentence for rape, burglary and assault. He will serve the remainder of the original sentence before starting the new jail term.

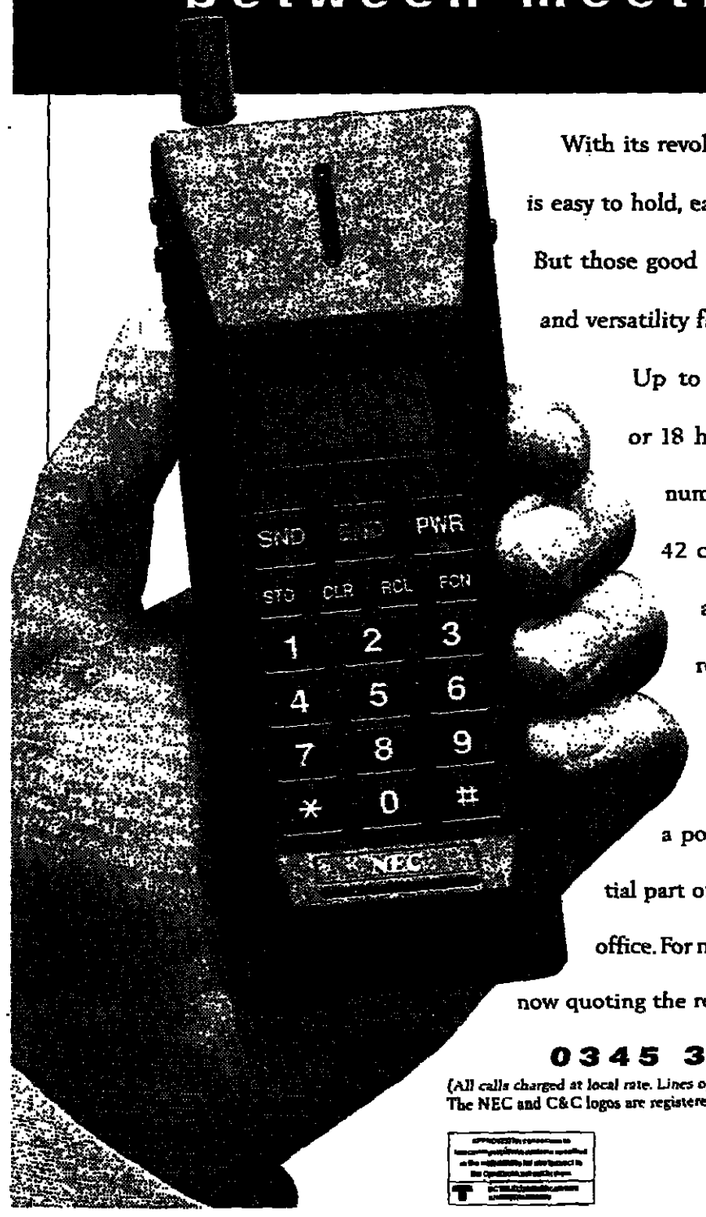
Shortly before his release, Musgrove wrote in a diary that he was desperately trying to control his fantasies about rape and was hearing voices urging him to sharpen his knife and rape women.

His brother, Michael, of Dagenham, Essex, is also a serial rapist and is serving a 13-year prison term for three rapes and indecent assault.

Within days of leaving jail, Peter Musgrove was stalking a divorced mother, aged 32, whom he attacked as she left her deserted workplace at Thatcham, Berkshire. He produced a knife when she was struggling with him in a car, Richard Latham, QC, for the prosecution, told Reading Crown Court. He was arrested next day, picked out at an identity parade and linked to the rape by DNA profiling.

The court was told that in diaries that Musgrove kept in prison but which were not found until after his arrest, he wrote about fighting fantasies about rape and said: "It is like trying to give up smoking and it is bloody hard."

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Music day will celebrate Britain's diversity

BY ALISON ROBERTS
ARTS REPORTER

A COMBINATION of rock, Purcell and the Proms will mark the second national music day this summer.

The day, initiated last year by the rock singer Mick Jagger and Tim Renton, then arts minister, is modelled on the French national music holiday. Events will celebrate Britain's musical diversity, from a search for songwriters, led by Roger Daltrey, former lead singer of The Who, to arias from Mozart's operas, at Barrington Court, Somerset.

The project was launched at the Hard Rock Café in London yesterday by Peter Brooke, the national heritage secretary, in conjunction with the pop group Right Said Fred and an assortment of music industry moguls. Mr Brooke admitted that he could not hum anything by Right Said Fred but said: "People tell me that Britain is a leader in pop music and I'm prepared to take their word for it."

Harvey Goldsmith, the music impresario and chairman of the project's committee, said people should turn up their hi-fi sets and radios on music day — in fact the weekend of June 26-7.

The Arts Council, which is contributing £40,000, is planning a Purcell celebration with anthems being played in ten cathedrals. Anthony Everitt, the secretary general, said the council was moving its concentration from professional towards amateur music. Fledgling pop stars playing in garages were as important as established performers, he said.

Teachers who ban tests threatened with loss of pay

BY JOHN O'LEARY, EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

LOCAL authority leaders yesterday tried to salvage this year's national curriculum tests as the threat of classroom disruption grew.

Some authorities are threatening to dock teachers' pay if they take part in the testing boycott called by the National Association of Schoolmasters and Union of Women Teachers (NASUWT). Others are reminding head teachers and governors of their legal responsibility to administer the tests.

The boycott officially began yesterday but few schools reported immediate disruption. Most NASUWT members were discussing the scope of their action before halting the assessment of pupils, the first target of the dispute.

Although other teachers' unions have refused to join the boycott, the National Association of Head Teachers has advised its members not to bring in extra staff to take over assessment and testing, and the Secondary Heads Association has called an emergency conference on the boycott next week.

Although some assessment and preparation of pupils will be at risk this term, the only testing is taking place in primary schools, where NASUWT has relatively few members.

Some authorities have written to head teachers, warning them that they could face legal action if they do not ensure that the tests go ahead. In Devon, Ken Watson, the chairman of the education committee, has offered to collate evidence of any adverse effects on teachers or their schools for a submission to John Patten, the education secretary. But he has also told the county's head teachers that the authority proposed to reduce the pay of staff taking part in the boycott.

In Hertfordshire, the education authority wrote to heads last week, advising them that they might be liable to legal action by parents or ministers if they did not allocate responsibilities for the tests.

The Campaign for Real Education, the right-wing pressure group, has offered to help parents who wish to pursue legal action against teachers involved in the boycott.

The teachers' main objection is that testing and assessment under the national curriculum has become so bureaucratic and time-consuming that staff cannot devote sufficient attention to normal teaching.

Teachers' dissatisfaction has focused on new tests for 14-year-olds in English and technology, although both the National Union of Teachers and the National Association of Head Teachers have also advised their members not to take part in the pilot tests at 11. Those for seven-year-olds are threatened by only the NASUWT.



Class action: primary schools are likely to escape test boycotts, which are focused on those for 14-year-olds

Primary schools 'to select pupils'

BY BEN PRESTON, EDUCATION REPORTER

STATE primary schools are likely to start selecting able pupils to boost their position in national league tables based on compulsory test results for seven-year-olds, a report said yesterday.

Head teachers will face pressures to avoid enrolling children from poorer backgrounds, "summer babies" who are young for their age group, children with special educational needs and those speaking English as a second language, because they lag consistently in the tests, according to academics from Leeds University in a report commissioned by the National Union of Teachers.

Instead, schools will regard girls and children who have received nursery education as an "asset" as they perform better.

The report, which evaluated the national curriculum tests taken by more than 500,000 seven-year-olds last year, also highlighted the depth of teachers' discontent. Most said that the tests remained too time-consuming, limiting the attention teachers could give individuals, despite government efforts to slim them down.

This year's tests in mathematics, science, English and technology are already underway against the backdrop of a boycott threat by the second largest teachers' union. For the first time, the government will publish a league table in the autumn detailing the performance of more than 19,000 primary schools in England and Wales based on the results.

The Leeds team, headed by Dr Diane Shorrocks, said that league tables based on the raw results of the tests were "invalid and misleading" because of significant differences in the way certain groups of children performed. There was a danger schools would view such children as "liabilities" when deciding on admissions.

Researchers found that pupils from advantaged backgrounds were twice as likely to score above average marks in English than those from poorer areas. In mathematics, the difference was five times.

A similar pattern emerged with twice as many "winter-born" children achieving higher marks across all subjects than pupils born in summer, who had consequently spent less time in school. Children who had been to nursery school outperformed those pupils who had not.

POSITIVE ABOUT DISABLED PEOPLE

"I'm Judith, and I have epilepsy."

Judith Lanfear is both a nurse and a nurse tutor at Charles Frears College in Leicester. She specialises in what she likes best: children's nursing. For this she had to qualify not only as a nurse, but also as a teacher.

Judith's epilepsy was diagnosed when she was 18, one year into her four-year training. Immediately it was decided she should not look after children, and Judith was told to discontinue that part of the course.

JUDITH HAS EPILEPSY. BEFORE SHE STARTED TEACHING, SHE HAD SOME EDUCATING TO DO.



It took her eighteen months, two consultants, several meetings and a good deal of help from the British Epilepsy Association to get the decision reversed.

But there were conditions. She was not to bath a baby. She was not to hold one on her knee. And by the terms of her contract, whenever she came on to a new ward, she immediately had to say:

"I'm Judith, and I have epilepsy."

Despite all these conditions, and the 18-month delay, she qualified as quickly as her fellow students, and went on to obtain a degree, followed by the post-graduate Certificate of Education for teaching.

And all the time her epilepsy was no problem. It was controlled by medication, and Judith has had no seizures for several years.

Most people with epilepsy, whether seizure-free or not, lead uncomplicated lives of this kind, a fact worth remembering when one of them applies to you for a job.

If you're an employer thinking of taking on people with any kind of disability, our booklet outlines the information, advice and practical help we can provide. Phone free on 0800 567 667 (minicom freephone 0800 444 265) for a free copy of "Employing people with disabilities."

It also tells you about the new disability symbol which lets disabled people know they have an equal chance of a job.

Not that Judith would regard herself as having any disability.

At the hospital she knows how to reassure children and parents when epilepsy is diagnosed.

"I understand," she says. "I'm Judith, and I have epilepsy."

EMPLOYMENT SERVICE

Literature prize goes to Naipaul

BY ALISON ROBERTS, ARTS REPORTER

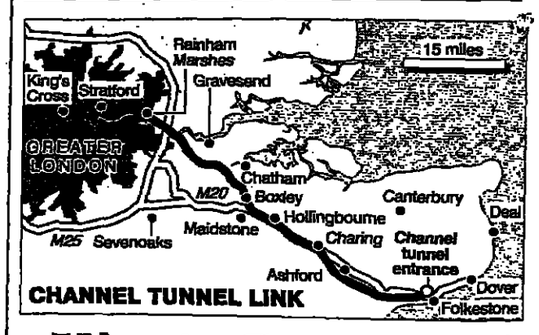
THE author V.S. Naipaul was last night awarded the first David Cohen British Literature Prize for a "lifetime's achievement by a living British writer". He receives £30,000, the biggest such prize in Britain.

Sir Vidiadhar was born in Trinidad in 1932 but has been a British resident since 1950 and was knighted in 1990. His novels include *A House for Mr Biswas*, *The Mimic Men*, *A Bend in the River* and *The Enigma of Arrival*.

He said last night: "I like the name of the prize. It is the British Literature Prize and I like that because this writing career of mine has been conducted here."

The prize, to be awarded every two years, was judged by a panel led by Michael Holroyd, chairman of the literature panel of the Arts Council. It is sponsored by the family charitable trust of David Cohen, a GP in London.

Prize speech, page 37



King's Cross row delays rail route

BY TIM JONES, TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

THE expected announcement today of the route for the rail link from the Channel tunnel to London is likely to intensify divisions between Sir Bob Reid, chairman of British Rail, and John MacGregor, the transport secretary.

Although the route will run largely as expected from Folkestone to Dartford, the government is to postpone a decision on the path it must take through the capital.

This is because of a dispute involving Sir Bob, John Prideaux, chairman of Union Railways, the man charged with delivering the link, and the Treasury.

Sir Bob and senior members of his management team are fighting a rearguard action to obtain government approval for their plan. This would turn King's Cross into a £1.4 billion super-terminal to handle high speed Channel traffic and would also play an important part in untangling rail transport in the capital.

John MacGregor, the transport secretary, is thought to favour a cheaper £700 million route for the link, running into the adjacent St Pancras station.

One well-placed source said yesterday: "There is a big battle being waged among the old guard on the BR board who are determined to fight for King's Cross. They see it as a mark of faith in the future of the railways."

More pragmatically, Dr Prideaux is said to be aware of the Treasury constraints and has managed to cut costs from the original £4.5 billion estimate to about £2.5 billion.

The fear is that any protracted row over the London section could delay the high speed link, destined to open by 2000, and might even threaten it.

Before London, the proposed route will take the link from Ashford to Detling and Boxley before crossing the Thames between Dartford and Gravesend.

Although there is a small doubt over whether the government will make the announcement tomorrow, it is pledged to do so well before local government elections in May in order to avoid accusations of skulduggery.

British Rail spent millions of pounds buying property and planning a route through south London, only to have its proposals rejected by a announcement at the Conservative conference in 1991.

☐ Today's Budget is likely to give the go-ahead to the £300 million Heathrow to Paddington rail link, which will be financed mainly by the private sector.



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Former MP pays ex-wife 5p a year after three decades of marriage



Sir Eldon: big losses on Black Monday

FRANCES GIBB
LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

SIR Eldon Griffiths, the former MP for Bury St Edmonds who divorced his first wife against her will after 30 years of marriage, pays her five pence a year in maintenance, the High Court heard yesterday.

The nominal order was revealed at the start of a legal action brought by Sir Eldon's wife, Sigrid Griffiths, 63, who is claiming £74,000 in damages from the solicitors she blames for not obtaining her a better divorce deal.

Mrs Griffiths maintains that the London solicitors, Dawson & Co, were negligent and in breach of their duty in failing to win her a proper financial settlement, including pension rights. She says the firm failed to make a crucial application to the court at the time of the divorce in 1985 which would have protected her financial position and any entitlement she might have to Sir Eldon's House of Commons pension.

Mrs Griffiths originally received £10,000 a year in maintenance. This was later reduced to £5,000, but since Sir Eldon's retirement from politics at last year's general election she has received a nominal 5p a year.

Her claim for £74,000 damages includes £32,000 for the cost of buying a pension policy and nearly £26,000 in wasted legal costs and interest. Dawson & Co deny negligence or breach of duty and claim that Mrs Griffiths has suffered no loss as a result of the work they did for her.

She married Sir Eldon, 67, in June 1949. They separated in June 1979. He was MP for Bury St Edmunds for 28 years.

James Davis, counsel for Mrs Griffiths, told Mr Justice Ewebank that in June 1985 Sir Eldon was granted a decree absolute without her consent on the grounds that the marriage had irretrievably broken down because they had lived apart for more than five years.

Mrs Griffiths could have had a divorce in 1979 because of her husband's adultery. "But while he was pressing her for a divorce she was reluctant to have a divorce and was telling him she still loved him and wanted him to stay with her," he said.

Sir Eldon later married his second wife Betty, but following some bad business investments his financial position had changed for the worse.

Mrs Griffiths believes that since his remarriage, Sir Eldon has lost £52,500 on a business venture which failed, spent £96,500 renovating a derelict cottage to make a new family home and paid £11,000 for a swimming pool.

Mr Davis said that if the solicitors had made the necessary application in 1985 under section 10 of the Matrimonial Causes Act 1973, asking the court to consider her financial position after the divorce, provision for Mrs Griffiths would have been based on Sir Eldon's financial circumstances before remarrying.

But the court application was not heard until 1990, by which time "Sir Eldon's financial position had totally collapsed", Mr Davis said.

Before the Black Monday stock market collapse in 1987, it would have been possible for Sir Eldon to have bought an annuity to replace the MP's widow's pension which she would have been entitled to eventually. By 1990, he did not have the capital to buy an annuity. The judge commented: "So instead of a pension she gets 5p a year."

Valerie Kleanthous, spokesman for the Solicitors' Family Law Association, said she could not comment on the particular case, but complaints about solicitors following divorce were extremely common, making up 18 per cent of complaints to the Solicitors' Complaints' Bureau.

"People very often blame the solicitors, particularly their ex-spouse's solicitors. They argue that their former wife or husband could be behind what is being requested, so it must be the solicitors."

On nominal maintenance orders, she said these were quite often deliberate, as a way of keeping the wife's options open so that if circumstances changed, she could go back to court and seek an increased maintenance order.

The hearing, expected to last two days, continues.

Scientists link rogue gene to breast and ovary cancers

BY NIGEL HAWKES
SCIENCE EDITOR

■ A discovery in British research labs could provide better screening for women most at risk from cancer

A GENETIC defect is responsible for breast and ovarian cancer in families with a history of the diseases, British scientists have shown.

The same defect, arising spontaneously, may also cause other cases of the two diseases, according to Dr Doug Easton of the Institute of Cancer Research in Sutton, Surrey. He believes that the normal function of the gene is to control growth processes. When it is defective it allows tumours to develop and grow in an uncontrolled fashion.

In those who have the defective gene, the lifetime risk of getting breast or ovarian cancer, or both, is about 80 per cent. The gene has yet to be identified but when that is achieved, screening may enable women at risk to take precautions.

Scientists from the Sutton laboratory, supported by the Cancer Research Campaign, and from the Imperial Cancer Research Fund's genetics laboratory in Leeds publish their findings today in the American Journal of Human Genetics. Dr Tim Bishop, from the Leeds laboratory, said: "We looked at dozens of case studies, from as far apart as America, Holland, Iceland, Germany, France, Sweden and the UK ... and we were amazed to see that all of the families seemed to have the same genetic defect."

In the families studied, at least two women had had breast or ovarian cancer. Dr Easton said: "We are hopeful that the gene will be identified within a year or so. It may then be possible to determine which women in these families have the defective gene."

Professor Bruce Ponder, of the CRC Human Cancer Genetics Group in Cambridge and chairman of the committee that co-ordinated the study, said: "This is another piece in the jigsaw which will help us understand the biology of two cancers which affect tens of thousands of women in this country and claim the lives of 20,000 every year."

Those carrying the gene, which tends to cause cancer at younger ages, may be encouraged to have regular breast examinations and to start them much younger. The national screening programme covers women aged 50 to 65. Dr Easton suggests that women carrying the gene ought to be screened regularly from the age of 35.

A more radical approach would be the surgical removal of breasts and ovaries in women found to be at risk, even where no signs of cancer had appeared. Some women from families where these cancers are common have already opted for this treatment, though it is commoner in America than in Britain.

No preventive drug has been proved effective, although cancer specialists believe that tamoxifen, used to treat breast cancer, may also prevent it. A large trial is planned to demonstrate this.

Body and Mind, page 17

CHRIS HARRIS



The one that they want? Tina Francis, a 21-year-old clerk from Nottingham, was among hopefuls auditioning in London for the lead female role in a West End adaptation of *Grease*. The first stage version to use songs from the film opens at the Dominion Theatre in July. The successful applicant for the Olivia Newton-John role will play opposite Craig McLachlan in the John Travolta part

Charities struggle to keep pace with demands for aid

BY JAMIE DETTMER

CHARITIES are struggling to keep spending in line with their incomes, according to a financial survey published yesterday.

The combined assets of the top 1,000 charities is about £20 billion, the equivalent of Britain's defence budget and a third of the country's social security budget, but increased demand on charitable trusts is forcing some foundations to put their future at risk by digging deep into their reserves.

Eight charities, including the Aldeburgh Foundation, a music charity, and the London Zoological Society, are battling to survive.

The Henderson Top 1,000 Charities guide, produced by Hemmington Scott, shows that charities were forced to use 97 per cent of their income from assets in 1992 compared with 95 per cent in the previous year.

Peter Scott, the guide's chief compiler, said: "Although a few charities are well endowed, most are struggling to keep pace with growing demands on their resources. The typical charity's latest accounts show expenditure rising by 14 per cent and income by only 10 per cent. This trend can't go on forever."

Mr Scott said the amount of public donations had remained about the same in the past two years and administrative costs had not risen significantly. The increased expenditure could be put down solely to the huge jump in requests for help.

Some charity experts claimed yesterday that Britain's trusts and foundations were being forced to act as an alternative welfare state, a result of a decade of government cuts in social security and health provision.

"There is no doubt that demand on all trusts is growing remarkably," said John Wheeler, financial director of the Rank Foundation, a charity that specialises in supporting youth projects. Last year, Rank outspent its £6.03 million income by nearly £250,000. The charity received more than 2,000 unsolicited requests for aid, 90 per cent of which had to be turned down.

The guide is the most extensive analysis of Britain's charity finances yet undertaken. The accounts of more than 3,000 foundations were examined to determine the top 1,000. It shows that Garfield Weston, the chairman of Associated British Foods, is Britain's top philanthropist. The net assets of the Garfield Weston Foundation are worth £994 million. Mr Weston's trust is exceeded in size only by the Wellcome Foundation, with assets of £5.1 billion, and the Church Commissioners, with £2.4 billion.

Most charities cannot fall back on assets to provide future income or make up shortfalls. Most assets are concentrated in a few top foundations. Wellcome on its own accounts for a quarter of all charitable assets, while the top five charities together, with £9.2 billion between them, account for nearly half of the total.

Ian MacGregor, Wellcome's finance director, said: "Even with our fast growing income we cannot keep up with demand. We are only giving 30 to 40 per cent of the money being requested."

According to the guide, the loss of a pet or a terminal illness figures strongly as motives for donations from the public. Mr Scott said: "When it comes to making a will, it seems people tend to leave their money to the animals which have befriended them late in life, or whatever it is that eventually kills them off."

Campaigning nurse 'caused distress'

BY RONALD FAUX

A MALE nurse who breached patients' confidentiality in a campaign to increase staffing levels painted a "lurid and negative picture" of conditions on a geriatric ward at Stepping Hill hospital, Stockport, Greater Manchester, an industrial tribunal in Manchester was told yesterday.

John Hand QC, representing Stockport district health authority, said that Graham Pink, 62, a charge nurse at the hospital, had released to the press an account of the last hours of an elderly patient's life. "That account allowed the man's friends and family to identify the patient. It caused the family great distress and that alone would have been justification for Mr Pink's dismissal," he said.

Mr Pink, who is claiming unfair dismissal against the health authority, was sacked after turning down an alternative post. "There is absolutely no doubt that he intended to take his case to the press in a deliberate breach of confidentiality and that was in direct breach of his employment contract," Mr Hand said.

He told the tribunal that Mr Pink had claimed he was dismissed because he had spoken the truth as he saw it. He was "a sort of whistle-blower who refused to be gagged", who believed he had a moral duty to disclose what he did in the public interest, Mr Hand said.

Mr Pink wrote to the prime minister, among others, in his year-long campaign for improved staffing and supervision levels at the hospital. The health authority was unable to accept his claims.

The hearing was adjourned after two hours to allow the tribunal to study more than 2,000 pages of documentation relating to the hearing, which is expected to last two weeks.

Mr Pink first "blew the whistle" in August 1989 when he wrote to Stockport health authority about his fears for the welfare of patients at Stepping Hill hospital. He listed a catalogue of alleged neglect which he said was caused by a shortage of staff.

Health officials visited wards at the hospital on the same night and a review of staffing levels was ordered, but in November 1989 Mr Pink was told that no more nurses could be provided.

Undaunted, he took his case to the highest level. A letter to Margaret Thatcher, then the prime minister, was met with a reply saying that it was a local matter.

Mr Pink's series of letters were published in a national newspaper and in May 1990 he received a written warning from his management, telling him to stop making the allegations. In defiance of this Mr Pink reported an incident involving a pensioner "lying in a pool of urine" to his local newspaper. He was suspended in August 1990 and sacked the next month.

A spin-off for spider science

BY NIGEL HAWKES
SCIENCE EDITOR

A NEW species of spider has been discovered near Cambridge. Tiny, light brown and with very small eyes, the spider is believed to live underground, which may explain why it has only now revealed itself to science.

The spider was found by Heather Maher, who works for an agency of the agriculture ministry, when she laid traps for insects at the Boxworth Research Centre to monitor the effects of pesticides.

Dr Peter Merrett of the British Arachnological Society confirmed that the spider had never been recorded anywhere in the world. It belongs to the *Centromerus* genus of money spiders and has yet to be formally named. So far the traps have picked up 19 males but no nest has been found. At 1.2mm long, it is half the size of the average money spider.



1.2mm newcomer

Half black population was born in Britain

BY RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

ALMOST half of the country's three million residents from ethnic minorities were born in the United Kingdom, according to a report published yesterday based on the 1991 census.

Forty-six per cent of the ethnic minority population was born here, with a large proportion of this group considering themselves to be black British rather than black African or black Caribbean.

The detailed study also showed the relative youthfulness of the ethnic minority community compared with the white population. Children up to the age of 16 form 30 per cent of the people in the ethnic minority community compared with less than 20 per cent in the white population. Those aged 65 and over form 3 per cent of the ethnic minority community, compared with 16 per cent of the white population.

Peter Owen, of the ethnic relations research centre at Warwick University, who carried out the research, said: "The figures show clearly the emergence of a British-born ethnic population that is tremendously youthful." His study of the census, the first to include a question on ethnic status, showed that more than half the black population is under 45.

Mr Owen's study shows that in the decade ending in 1991, the ethnic groups with the fastest growth were the Bangladeshis, whose numbers more than doubled to 162,000, and the Pakistanis, whose population increased by more than 200,000 to 476,000. The largest ethnic minority group in the United Kingdom are the Indians.

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London Marathon sticks to its route

BY JOHN GOODBODY, SPORTS NEWS CORRESPONDENT

The London Marathon will be run on its traditional route after all. After 17 months of negotiations, the government and the race organisers agreed yesterday that the event, on April 18, will start in Greenwich Park and end in St James's Park.

Demands by the national heritage department that the organisers should pay a new charge levied on events in the royal parks led to fears that the 20,000 runners would be barred from the usual route.

Although the government dropped its facility fee from £25,000 to £15,000 during negotiations, Chris Brasher, the chairman of the marathon's board of directors, described the demand as a "toll" which would have cut profits. Since the first London Marathon in 1981, the event has raised £1.4 million for sport and recreation in the capital.

A compromise was reached in which the £15,000 will be used for recreational facilities in the royal parks. Mr Brasher, the 1956 Olympic steeplechase champion and founder of one of Britain's favourite sports events, said yesterday he was delighted that the government recognised the importance of the royal parks to the world-wide audience that watches the race.

"We are now actively discussing the use of St James's Park as our preferred finish for the next few years while Westminster Bridge undergoes repairs," he said. The Nutrasweet London Marathon is likely to be watched on television in about 40 countries.

Robert Key, minister for sport, said he was "pleased that discussions with the organisers had been concluded in a workmanlike fashion".

The dispute had led to a campaign to keep the race on its usual route and an early-day motion was tabled in the Commons by Tony Banks, the Labour MP for Newham North West. The government has always emphasised that it was following the recommendations of the Jenkins review on royal parks, that there should be some "clear financial benefit" to the parks when they are used to stage major events.

This year's race will feature Liz McColgan of Scotland, the British 10,000 metres record-holder, who has signed an agreement worth almost £500,000, plus possible bonuses, to run in the event for the next three years.

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In the skies balmy weather lures flocks of early visitors but on the ground lack of rain causes concern

Water firms fear drought if dry spell continues

By Louise Hidalgo

AN EXCEPTIONALLY dry February and the prospect of little rain this month have led to concerns that parts of Britain may be in the grip of drought again this summer.

The National Rivers Authority said yesterday that underground water levels in some parts of southeast England, the region most affected by drought last year, were showing no sign of recovery despite above average rain during the early winter.

A spokesman for the NRA said the authority was concerned that lack of rain in recent weeks could prove "a blow to the recharge of water levels" undergone in recent months.

The Water Services Association, which represents water companies in England and Wales, admitted the dryness of the past six weeks had put a temporary stop to the replenishment of underground water reserves.

"It's no secret that we would have liked to see the rain levels of the autumn and January continue," Paul Garrett, of the association, said. "A dry spring could mean problems for the South East, particulary the Kent and Essex regions."

East Anglia and north Kent, the most water-starved areas of England, required exceptionally high levels of rainfall this winter to bring levels in the underground chalk back to normal.

Last month was the driest February since 1986, which has undone much of the good work of the autumn and January, when rainfall was double that of the previous year and parts of the Anglian coast found themselves under water.

The southern and Thames regions had only 10 per cent of the average rainfall for February. East Anglia fared somewhat better, with 35 per cent of the long-term average.

March, traditionally one of the wetter months, has so far followed a similar pattern. Mike Woodley, a climatist at the Meteorological Office, said: "March usually provides the last fling before the loss through evaporation of the spring and summer months. So far, it's been very dry, and it looks as if that will continue for the rest of the week."

Water companies and the National Rivers Authority have predicted it will take two wettish winters to allow the water table to recover fully in the worst-affected regions.

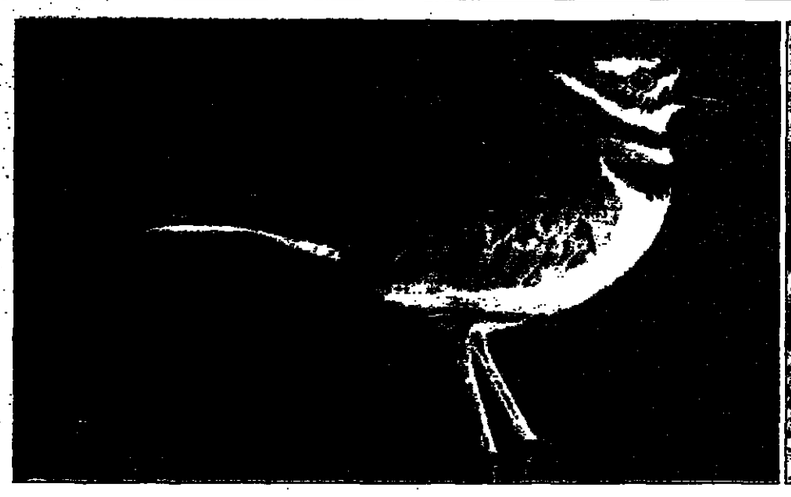
The current dry spell has halted the recovery in the chalk and limestone aquifers, the natural underground reservoirs where much of the country's natural water supply is stored. They are crucial to the South East, which relies heavily on underground reserves.

Terry Marsh, who monitors the collection of rainfall at the Hydrology Institute, said a repeat of the hot, dry summer and autumn of 1990 remained a possibility but that underground water levels and reservoir stocks had been fuelled by the early winter rains.

"A dry spell at this time is fairly pivotal. Water prospects for the year will depend on what happens between now and the end of April."

The drought, which began in autumn 1988, has been patchy and has shifted around the southern and eastern parts of England. Last year hosepipe bans and more drastic restrictions affected millions of homes and businesses, but the worst damage was to nature and wildlife.

Forecast, page 22





Sunshine flights: warm weather and southerly winds have brought an early wave of migrant birds to Britain, including the rarely seen great spotted cuckoo, right. Ornithologists also report evidence that many birds are nesting sooner because of warmer summers and milder winters (Michael Hornsby writes). Bird watchers have seen the cuckoo on St Martin's on the Isles of Scilly, hundreds of miles north of its normal breeding grounds in southern France, Spain and Portugal, where it migrates after wintering in Africa. Chris Harbard, of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, said yesterday: "If there is a warm airstream and the wind is in the right direction, the odd cuckoo will overshoot and reach our shores.

"There have been about 35 sightings over the last 30 years in Cornwall or on the Isles of Scilly, though usually not until April." Another rare visitor, for contrasting reasons, is the killdeer, left, a North American plover spotted on south Mainland, Shetland. It is thought to have been thrown out into the Atlantic by the storms on the east coast of the United States and carried across the ocean in a trough of low pressure. Only seven have been seen in Britain in March in the past 30 years. Steve Gantlett, editor of the magazine *Birding World*, said other Africa wintering birds to look out for if the present weather continues are the hoopoe, the purple heron, the Sardinian warbler and the subalpine warbler. "They all migrate north in spring and usually stop in the Mediterranean, but some will keep going if the conditions are right."

Regular March visitors, such as wheatears, blackcaps, black redstarts and firecrests, are being spotted in greater numbers than usual; other summer migrants, including chiffchaffs, swallows, tree pipits and sand martins, have arived several weeks early. According to surveys by the British Trust for Ornithology, many resident and migrant birds in Britain are nesting, on average, a week earlier than 20 years ago. Humphrey Crick, the survey coordinator, said: "The shift started in the mid-1970s and 33 out of 82 species are now nesting significantly earlier, apparently because of the warmer weather associated with global warming."



The Euro-face: 6 per cent British

Meet Mr Europe, aged 31½

By Nick Nuttall
Technology Correspondent

THE face of the average European has been sculpted by computer technology. Hidden in the jaw line, nostrils and cheeks are the facial elements that underpin late 20th century western Europe's racial mix.

Ethnically, the computerised reflection is nearly 18 per cent African and 18 per cent non-EC European. The face is about 6 per cent British.

It also reflects the fact that more than a quarter of the people living in the Community are from countries such as India and Turkey. The face is 49 per cent male and 51 per cent female and is aged 31½ years.

Paul Wombell, curator of Impressions Gallery in York and one of the people behind the image, said that if the peoples of modern Europe all interbred their offspring might resemble the face.

The image was created to support *Mask*, an exhibition which opens at the gallery this week and which examines society's use of masks to hide or reveal aspects of character and features.

The Euro-face project was led by Valerie Brown, working at the gallery on an Arts Council bursary. She gathered statistics on the peoples of the EC and they were fed into a computer which generated images from a database holding facial features.

Ex-officer in prison suicide bid

Roderick Newall, the former army officer accused of murdering his parents in Jersey five years ago, has attempted suicide for a third time.

Prison authorities in Gibraltar, where he is being held, said that guards saw him try to take his life on Sunday. They would not confirm reports that he had a smuggled syringe.

Mr Newall, 27, whose parents Nicholas and Elizabeth vanished in October 1987, is due in court next week over an extradition matter. Since his arrest at sea in August he has taken a drug overdose and slashed his wrists.

Journalists win tax battle

The Inland Revenue has failed in its latest attempt to make journalists liable for tax on the money they are given to buy newspapers.

In a test case, the Court of Appeal accepted that five journalists from the *Daily Mail* and *Mail on Sunday* had to buy newspapers to perform their work, and expenses paid were therefore tax-deductible.

Pension fraud

Rachel Richardson, a social worker aged 46, of Murton, co. Durham, was fined £50 with £500 costs by Newcastle Crown Court for claiming her father's civil service pension six months after his death.

Trial delayed

The trial of Beverley Allitt, the nurse accused of murdering four children at Grantham hospital, was adjourned after Nottingham Crown Court was told that she was suffering severe anorexia.

Sailors charged

Three Royal Navy ratings are to appear in court over damage to a portrait at the Guildhall in Helston, Cornwall, of Wing Commander Guy Gibson VC, who led the Dambusters raid 50 years ago.

Kung fu chop

Lessons in martial arts for police at Sefton, Merseyside, have been suspended after 26 officers were injured.

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Boundary deal puts Currie's European seat hopes at risk

By Sheila Gunn, political correspondent

CELEBRATIONS by Edwina Currie and Glenys Kinnock for their selection to fight two European seats could be premature as both constituencies of Bedfordshire South and South East Wales may be forced to re-select their candidates.

The electoral prospects of the former health minister and the wife of the former Labour leader are at risk from a little-noticed deal at December's European Community summit in Edinburgh to give Britain an extra six MEPs from the June 1994 elections.

To fulfil the obligations Kenneth Clarke, the home secretary, must push a bill through Parliament this session to change the European parliamentary boundaries. However, the legislation has become the latest victim of the Maastricht ratification process.

The Home Office confirmed yesterday that officials were still grappling with the options while ministers were seeking an agreement with other political parties on the redrawing of the boundaries.

A spokesman said: "It looks increasingly pushed for time. Ministers are consulting with colleagues and, hopefully, at an early stage they will take this matter forward."

It is understood that picking the extra MEPs through some form of proportional representation voting system, as in other European Community countries, has been ruled out. In addition the Boundary Commission is too weighed down with rejigging the parliamentary map to have time to carry out all the usual procedures for changing the Euro-constituency boundaries.

A senior government source predicted that the Home Office, with help from outside consultants, would work out the changes.

However ministers recognise they need the agreement of other parties to make sure the bill passes swiftly through both Houses because of lack of parliamentary time this session and possible antics by the Tory EC-sceptics.

Although England can statistically justify taking all the new seats, it looks increasingly as if Scotland, and possibly Wales, will be allocated one more seat each as part of a cross-party agreement. The boundaries in Northern Ireland, the only part of the United Kingdom to elect MEPs through PR, will not be changed.

Conservative party officials have been pressing the 81 constituencies to select candidates as quickly as possible in spite of the prospect of re-selections when the boundaries are changed.

Jeff Rooker, the chairman of the Labour party's campaign for electoral reform, has challenged John Major to disclose his plans for accommodating the new seats.

In a letter the Labour MP for Birmingham Perry Barr accused the prime minister of planning "nothing less than an electoral coup d'etat" by seeking to ensure that all the extra seats fall to the Conservatives.

Mr Rooker added: "Given that you never made any public statements during the British presidency about the soundings you were taking on the issue of the extra seats and that you appear to have made no proposals for any all-party discussions on the matter, this can be the only conclusion to be reached."

Maastricht rebel backs Major

By Philip Webster, chief political correspondent

THE government was given a small but much-needed boost yesterday in its efforts to ratify the Maastricht treaty. George Walden, a senior Tory MP who has been regularly abstaining on the treaty legislation, said that he would in future vote for it. Mr Walden said that failure to ratify could plunge Britain into a domestic political crisis and an international cul-de-sac.

With the government's majority on key votes likely to be in single figures from now on, even with Liberal Democrat support, every defector from the rebel camp will be welcomed with open arms.

Mr Walden, MP for Buckingham and a former education minister, described Maastricht as an "unnecessary, semi-incoherent treaty which now breathes on one lung, the other, EMU, having collapsed."

He said that his priority had always been to prevent a collision between Britain and Europe, and that after the Danish referendum he hoped the treaty might expire "without Britain's fingerprints on the dagger". But with the French referendum having been won, and the Danes increasingly likely to ratify, "my preference for death at the hands of others seems no longer on offer.

"Logically I must therefore rethink my position," Mr Walden said. "Failure by Britain alone to ratify would lead to the confrontation I fear, with all the economic perils."

He said that it would have been more comfortable to continue to distance himself from "this wretched treaty" by quietly abstaining. "But that would have been to evade the issue. In terms of practical politics we are reaching the stage where opposition to the treaty only makes sense in the context of opposition to Europe. I have no qualms about adjusting my position in the face of reality. Pragmatism, our super patriots should remember, is a British virtue."

Mr Walden's shift will be seen as important by the Tory whips. Last Thursday there were doubts over whether the government would win the procedural motion to extend the sitting, even if it had been granted Liberal Democrat support. In the event that support was not forthcoming and the government abandoned its attempt to go on into the night.

John Major's European policy received another boost yesterday, from business leaders representing 240,000 firms. Christopher Stewart-Smith, president of the British Chamber of Commerce, said in a letter: "European commercial integration is a process upon which many UK firms are relying. We urge you to press ahead with the ratification process, which has our full support."

Richard Brown, the chamber's policy director, highlighted the case of a firm that made the glue for Coca-Cola labels. Its exports had increased about sixfold in the past four years, mainly to Europe.



Walden: rethinking his position on Europe

Danish call, page 14
Leading article, page 19

Lamont buries Victorian tradition

By Peter Riddell, political editor



Showing the way: Denis Healey, who delivered three statements in addition to his Budget in 1976

THIS afternoon will mark the end of one of the great rituals of parliamentary life, the spring Budget. Like other British traditions it assumed its familiar form in the High Victorian era. Since Gladstone's four- or five- hour speeches 130 years ago, when the battered little red box was first used, each Chancellor has savoured his, not so far her, moment in the limelight.

Yet, paradoxically, the proposed change in timing, shifting the date to late November, masks a return to traditional practice. The new unified Budget will combine tax and spending, as the spring Budget used to do until the 1960s.

The Budget has always been partly theatrical, ever since Gladstone mixed morally uplifting orations on the state of the nation with detailed proposals on army and navy estimates and minor changes in taxes.

Budgets have been the vehicles for social reform. Lloyd George's 1909 Budget was a landmark not just in the creation of the welfare state but also in constitutional reform since it provoked the battle which led, via two general elections, to curbs on the power of the Lords over financial measures.

The Budget has become surrounded with increasing ceremony and secrecy. It has been a resigning matter for even the merest hint of proposals to be leaked. The most famous example was in November 1947 when Hugh Dalton chatted to a lobby correspondent a few minutes before delivering his statement. The report appeared in the stop press in a few thousand copies, but Dalton had to resign.

Roy Jenkins recalls in his memoirs, *A Life at the Centre*, how, ahead of his first Budget in 1968, "it was still the heroic, post-Gladstonian period of Budget secrecy. Only a couple of dozen senior officials and their secretaries were 'Budget-cleared' ... There was even a secure zone in the Treasury marked by white tape, within which alone Budget papers could circulate freely." At his country home he hid Budget papers, not in a safe, but just above where he kept his wine.

Such secrecy has been justified as preventing pre-emptive action by taxpayers. The purdah into which the Chancellor and his top advisers go for the two months before Budget day also gives them relative peace in which to reach decisions. The Treasury has turned this secrecy to its advantage. As Nigel Lawson records in his *The View from Number 11*, "there is effectively no role for cabinet in the Budget process".

In March 1981, a group of the then "wets" — Jim Prior, Peter Walker and Ian Gilmour — protested strongly when they learnt on Budget day that taxes were to be raised at the depth of the recession. They contemplated resignation, but in the end did not go. This led to the largely meaningless concession that the full cabinet could discuss options before the Budget.

Purdah has looked increasingly absurd. This year, Norman Lamont has made occasional remarks about favourable statistics and, unusually, gave an interview over the weekend, largely to bolster his own standing. There has also been the innovation of the forecasters' panel, the seven wise men, though their role has been to offer their views, rather than to hear those of the Treasury.

The pre-eminence of the spring Budget — over the past decade in March rather than April — has gradually declined. Economic crises, usually in foreign exchange markets, have led to further announcements in the autumn. These occurred in 1947 and 1955 and, as pressures mounted from the early 1970s, became more frequent. In 1976, Denis Healey delivered three major statements in addition to his regular spring Budget.

From the late 1960s, spending plans began to be published separately from tax measures, in an annual white paper in December or January. From the late 1970s the Treasury was also statutorily obliged to produce economic forecasts twice a year. Geoffrey Howe regularised the position with a formal Autumn Statement in 1982.

A unified Budget has been urged for some time, but was rejected by Lord Lawson because of the uncertainties of deciding on public borrowing, and hence taxes, four months ahead of the start of the financial year. He was also concerned about creating an immense burden of work for the Chancellor and his officials and of tilting the balance towards the public spending lobbies.

Mr Lamont, however, announced last year that the system would be changed from late 1993 so that both sides of the account will be decided at the same time.

The traditional Budget ceremony should still survive, albeit with a late autumn chill. Lord Lawson has defended the ritual: "It seems to be no bad thing that for one day in the year the attention of the entire nation should be focused on the national economy."



Shamed: Hugh Dalton, who had to resign in 1947

Labour demands Budget to halt employment slump

By Jill Sherman, political correspondent

JOHN Major has halved the amount spent on training and help for the jobless since he became prime minister, the Labour party claimed yesterday.

Gordon Brown, the shadow Chancellor, put in a final bid for a Budget for jobs, alleging that Mr Major had cut the real value of help which each unemployed person received from £1,118 to £565 next year.

"Far from ensuring opportunity for all, John Major has been an unemployment prime minister in a government of economic neglect," Mr Brown said yesterday.

Mr Brown, who subjected press journalists to a lengthy speech for the benefit of television cameras, gave a warning that today's Budget would probably only scratch the surface.

"Announcing yet another underfunded temporary jobs programme under a new title, reannouncing the Heathrow rail link ... masking tax rises by calling them help for the environment, will not add up to the new industry and employment strategy the country urgently needs."

Labour's analysis of the government's 1993-4 supply estimates showed that as unemployment rose as fast as ever.

The government proposed almost £100 million of cuts in schemes for the unemployed, business and industry, Mr Brown said.

Even new government initiatives, Training for Work and One Stop Business Services, were being cut by 7 and 14 per cent respectively. The level of the government's commitment to the unemployed was a real terms cut of £623 in training and assistance for each jobless person since 1990-1, he said.

"These cuts are not only an insult to our fellow citizens who are unemployed, they are yet another indication of the complete failure of the Tories to understand why unemployment is rising," Mr Brown said.

Diary, page 18

Disability reforms planned

CHANGES in the system for making payments to people with disabilities were hailed last night as a step towards a more caring society by Nicholas Scott, the minister for the disabled.

Mr Scott was opening the Commons second reading debate on the disability (grants) bill, which fits into government plans for more community care. The bill creates two funds which the government says will extend the scope of assistance for the disabled and would operate in partnership with local authorities.

It is estimated that about 1,500 people a year would get a cash payment from the new funds as well as help from their council. The budget for the first year would be £4 million. Mr Scott said: "This bill marks another step in the movement towards a more caring society which offers additional opportunities for all its members, not just those who are able-bodied."

Barry Sheerman, for the Opposition, questioned the need for changes and said he had serious reservations about the bill, which would lead to funds "far inferior" to the independent living allowance they would replace.

Lib Dems take a leaf out of Clinton book

By Jill Sherman, political correspondent

LIBERAL Democrats will use the Newbury by-election as the launch-pad for a new campaigning strategy to set an alternative agenda for party politics. Paddy Ashdown and the Liberal Democrat candidate, David Rendel, will adopt a Clintonesque approach, holding small group meetings in town halls to give the public a chance to air its views.

"The campaign will be built around a conversation with the people rather than a confrontation between parties," a party source said.

The Liberal Democrats are determined that the by-election will not disintegrate into the normal slanging match, with candidates trying to score points off each other without discussing the issues.

The town hall meetings will be similar in style to those held by John Major at the beginning of his campaign, but anyone from any political persuasion will be able to attend. A theme is expected to be selected for each meeting.

Mr Ashdown and Mr Rendel will also argue for the need for strong leadership in the absence of any sense of direction from the government. "We are not just going to mobilise dissatisfaction with the government but set out an alternative direction for the country," the source said.

Mr Ashdown is intent on building an alliance with non-political groups such as churches and voluntary organisations as part of an attempt to restore the public's trust in politicians. While he will work behind the scenes on building up trust between the Liberal Democrats and Labour there will be no formal overtures.

The new style of campaigning, which Mr Ashdown hopes will set the mould for party politics in the future, was trailed in his speech in Leicester last weekend. "What we see at Westminster is a daily ritual which has little to do with our nation. It is politics for its own sake. Confrontation as an end to itself," Mr Ashdown said.

"We will ask people, when they vote for us, to vote for something wider and broader even than Liberal Democrat ideas. We will ask them to vote not just for a change of policy, but for a new kind of politics: politics which values co-operation and puts the interests of the country before the interests of our parties."

RESULT OF 1992 GENERAL ELECTION

Mrs J. Chaplin (C), 37,135; Mr D. Rendel (LD) 24,778; R. Hall (*Lab*) 3,962; J. Wallis (Green) 539.
Con majority 12,357.

Doctors' pay rise held to 1.5%

By Nicholas Wood, political correspondent

THE government stuck to its tight public sector pay ceiling yesterday as it held increases next month for Britain's 30,000 family doctors to 1.5 per cent.

The announcement by Virginia Bottomley, the health secretary, came after the pre-Christmas snub to the government by the doctors' and dentists' review body, when it refused to produce a report this year.

The rise takes GPs' net earnings from their current £40,010 to £40,610. Family doctors operate as small businessmen within the National Health Service and the increases announced yesterday by Mrs Bottomley contained some consolation for the profession.

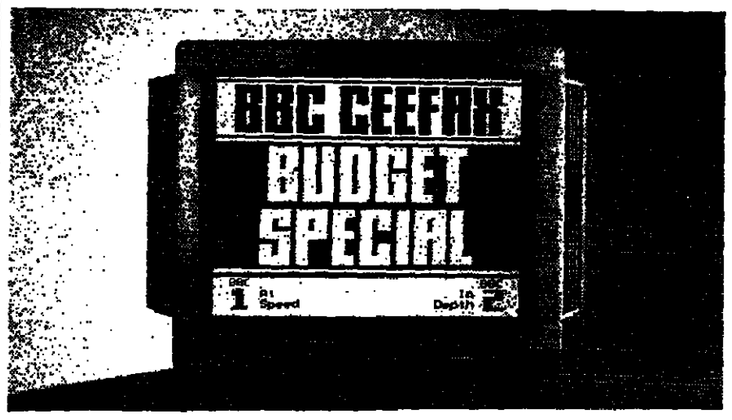
The allowance made for expenses incurred in running a practice is to be increased by 11 per cent to £22,190 because of past under-estimates by the review body.

This increase is partly offset, however, by a clawback of £497 a head for a previous overpayment to GPs. Fees and allowances for services such as immunisations are increased by 3.3 per cent across the board.

So-called gross income (including expenses) is to rise by 3.9 per cent from £59,977 in the current year to £62,303 from April.

Mrs Bottomley also promised talks with GPs' leaders on their demands for a big increase in payments made to trainees for night calls.

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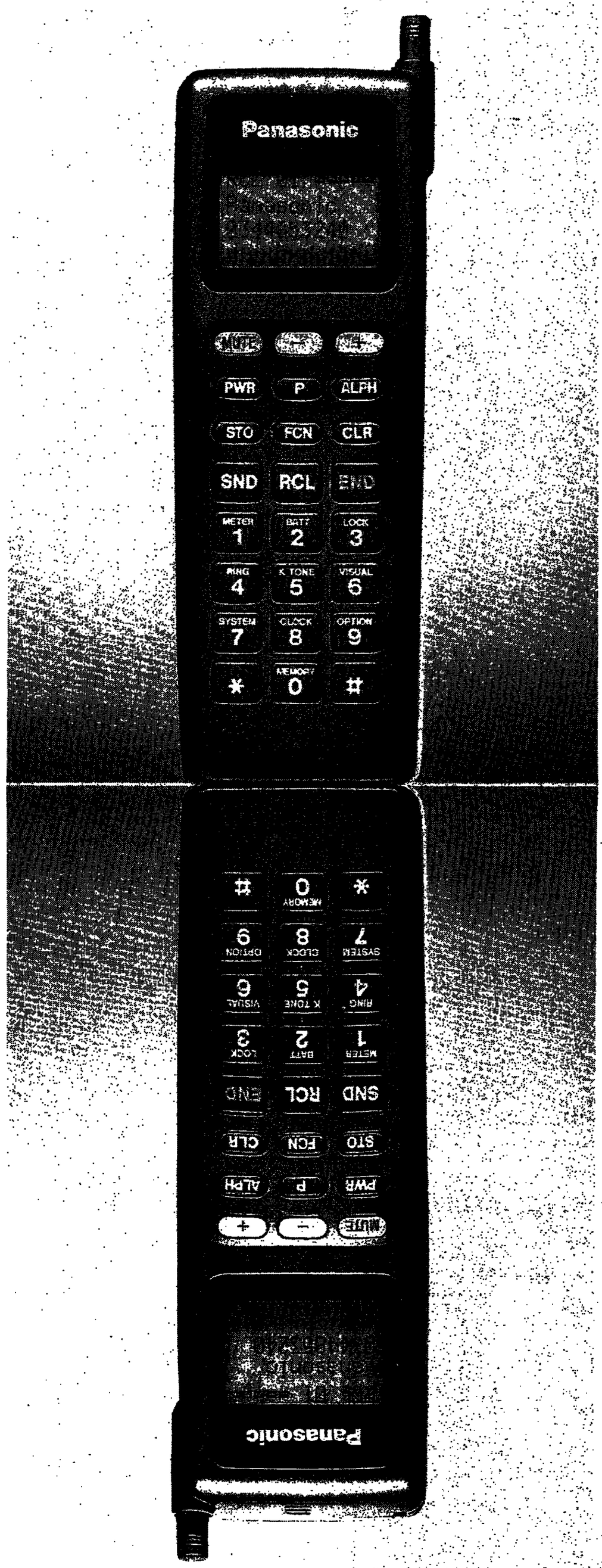
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071-629 0651. | the first London Marathon in 1981, the Robert Key, minister for sport, said he in the event for the next three years.

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North Korea issues war alert and closes borders

BY DAVID WATTS

NORTH Korea gave a warning yesterday that war could break out "at any moment" after the government banned entry to the country by foreigners, including diplomats.

The war warning came as a blackout was introduced and war rumours spread among the population. Ri Tcheul, North Korean ambassador to the United Nations in Geneva, said that bullets and shells were being fired "towards our side" in the joint American-South Korean Team Spirit military exercises.

"If we respond to it, it will mean a war and this war cannot but be an all-out war," Mr Ri said. "That is why we are stressing that a hair-trigger situation has been created which could lead to an outbreak of war at any time." The ban on foreign entry was introduced as the North Korean leadership prepared for an extended confrontation with the international community over demands for inspection of its nuclear capability.

In South Korea, the authorities are reported to be seeking a delay in the withdrawal of the USS *Independence* aircraft carrier battle group and the thousands of troops flown in for the Team Spirit exercises that are due to end on Thursday.

The complete closure of an already isolated country that has few diplomatic contacts outside the less developed states of Africa is bringing concern that hardliners in the North are again in the ascendant under Kim Jong Il, the son of the "Great Leader" Kim Il Sung, who took control of the military last year.



Kim Il Sung: vowed to control South Korea

The sense of a foreign threat to the country will serve the government well in its attempts to enhance the image of Kim Jong Il for the day when the "Great Leader", who vowed to take control of South Korea, dies. Although he commands the armed forces, Kim Jong Il has no military record to point to.

Rumours are said to be rife among North Koreans that war could break out around the March 25 deadline set by the International Atomic Energy Agency for allowing nuclear inspections. "They are saying they believe the attack will come from outside, not that North Korea will start it," one resident was reported by Reuter as saying. The capital has been blacked out every night since Saturday and people have been ordered to cover their windows with thick blackout curtains.

The atomic energy agency announced yesterday that it would hold an emergency meeting on Thursday about Pyongyang's refusal to allow inspection of its nuclear sites. The statement added that the Vienna-based UN watchdog would hear a report on inspections in North Korea by Hans Blix, its director-general.

North Korea allowed agency inspectors to check civilian nuclear facilities and equipment last year, but the international body said it was concerned about what it called inconsistencies between North Korea's data on its nuclear activities and analyses of samples and measurements taken by the inspectors.

The Russian news agency Tass said from Pyongyang: "The foreign ministry has instructed consular departments abroad to halt issuing any visas for travel to North Korea, including to diplomatic workers." The decision took effect last week when the country put its army on high alert after the resumption of joint American-South Korean military exercises.

North Korea withdrew last week from the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, aimed at preventing the spread of nuclear weapons.



Great survivor: Li Peng, the Chinese prime minister, delivering his state of the nation address yesterday, which was notable for its lack of hardline rhetoric

Man in the news

Chinese leader outwits detractors

FROM CATHERINE SAMPSON IN PEKING

EVER since Li Peng, the Chinese prime minister, allied himself so closely with the bloody army crackdown on pro-democracy demonstrators in 1989, there has been speculation that his days must be numbered. It was Mr Li who had been seen sneering at the students on national television, and celebrating their demise. In 1989, it was difficult to see how he could survive.

The special five-yearly session of the National People's Congress, which began yesterday, would have been the perfect opportunity to sideline Mr Li, and perhaps to brand him a scapegoat for the bloodshed. As Mr Li opened parliament, however, it was clear that he is about to embark on another five-year term in office.

Mr Li has survived widespread unpopularity because of his ability to blow with the wind of Chinese politics. He is a Soviet-educated technocrat, who is a cautious, even conservative, economist. In 1988, in response to an overheating economy, it was Mr Li who launched a tough austerity drive, clashing with Zhao Ziyang, the former reformist Communist party general secretary who was removed from office in 1989. But since Deng Xiaoping, the senior leader, emerged last year to call for capitalist reforms, Mr Li has voiced his support for these changes, doing what amounts to a U-turn with no sign of embarrassment.

His speech yesterday was notable for the scarcity of its hardline ideological rhetoric. Mr Li did mention the 1989 demonstrations and the army crackdown, and he emphasised that in the face of the collapse of communism elsewhere, China would "stand firm like a rock in the East". But that was just a faint echo of the speeches of years past.

There is no doubt that Mr Li's political opportunism reflects his determination to make it to the summit of Chinese politics. Yet Mr Li remains, as he was in 1989, essentially a messenger rather than a policy-maker. Whether blasting the reform proposals of Chris Patten, the Hong Kong governor, or announcing an increase in the projected growth rate, Mr Li is in essence a mouthpiece for the decisions of Mr Deng.

Mr Li, 65, comes from Sichuan, the same home province as Mr Deng. He joined the Communist party at 17, four years before Mao Tse-tung declared the founding of communist China. The orphan of a communist official shot by nationalists, he was taken in at the age of 11 by Chou En-lai, then prime minister. Mr Li is in many ways an unexceptional and uncharismatic man, but his revolutionary parentage is believed to have done him immeasurable good in his climb up the hierarchy.

China lashes out, page 1
Michael Yahuda, page 18
Bank results, page 23

UN blames military for murders

BY DAVID ADAMS

AFTER an extensive investigation into atrocities committed during El Salvador's civil war, a three-man "Truth Commission" appointed by the United Nations has accused seven senior Salvadorean military officers of ordering the 1989 murder of six Jesuit priests. The commission also wants more than 40 military officers dismissed for human rights abuses.

In a broadcast before the report was published, President Cristiani called on the National Assembly to pass an amnesty for those linked to crimes by the commission. At the weekend he accepted the resignation of General René Ponce, the defence minister, who had been under increasing pressure to step down after it became known that the commission would link him to the murder of the Jesuits.

The Clinton administration and American congressmen, however, are backing demands by Salvadorean opposition parties that all the accused officers must accept their guilt by resigning before being pardoned. On Friday the US State Department said it would withhold $11 million (£7.7 million) in military aid to El Salvador until all guilty officers were removed.

Although the Clinton administration has offered its strong support for the findings, the report is deeply embarrassing to the governments of George Bush and Ronald Reagan. The UN commission says that, apart from financing the Salvadorean government at a rate of almost $1 million a day at the height of the war, American military advisers at the embassy in San Salvador hampered investigations into the killing of the Jesuits.

Cuba gives Castro five more years

FROM DAVID ADAMS IN MIAMI

Cuba's new National Assembly met for the first time yesterday to "re-elect" Fidel Castro for five more years as President of the Council of State, the country's ruling body (David Adams writes).

Analysts of Cuban politics say, however, that last month's single-party national election for the 589-member assembly was less remarkable for the democratic nature of the vote than for what it revealed of Dr Castro's lasting ability to persuade Cubans to do his bidding. Whether out of genuine commitment to the Cuban Communist party or for fear of persecution, 90 per cent of Cubans voted in favour of Dr Castro's candidates.

In recent interviews, Dr Castro, 66, has said he is tired, adding that he is ready to stand down if the conditions are right. Experts agree that Dr Castro shows no signs of relinquishing power while Cuba remains at daggers drawn with Washington.

To retire now would be cowardly, he says. "He will not simply resign or scuttle off into golden exile. Nobody who knows Castro can imagine that he will do anything other than stay and fight," Wayne Smith, former head of the American diplomatic mission in Havana who is now a critic of his country's policy towards Cuba, said.

There has been talk of unrest in Cuban military ranks that might lead to an overthrow of the government, but the evidence suggests otherwise, with Dr Castro's brother Raul firmly in charge of the army.

The end of communist rule in the former Soviet bloc has robbed Cuba of 85 per cent of its overseas markets and half its hard currency revenue. Shortages of basic goods, food and energy are acute. This year's sugar harvest, which accounts for 80 per cent of all exports, is expected to be a record low. A potential scenario often discussed by observers is the outbreak of rioting over food shortages. But fear of Dr Castro's system seems enough to deter Cubans from civil disobedience.

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AA checks the cost of insuring your home

THE COST of insuring your home and its contents is likely to soar this year... for many homeowners' home insurance bills have been double the 1991 figure.

The reason for the astonishing increases is that insurance companies have had to pay out an enormous claims that they are taking the premiums to balance their books.

While homeowners have traditionally stayed with the same insurance company, many are now thinking of shopping around to find a more competitive quote.

But this can be very time-consuming. It can also be difficult for the homeowner to compare one quote with another, as most offer different features and benefits.

Now AA Insurance, part of the Automobile Association, has launched a computerised household insurance quotation service for the cost-conscious, which covers both buildings and contents policies.

The AA has built up a panel of insurance companies which give the best contents and buildings insurance terms and is available by telephone or through AA insurance shops. The cover is the same in all cases.

Daily e Mail
29th April 1992

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This plan covers damage caused by burst pipes and other types of water damage including floods.

STORMS
Damage to your possessions from trees falling on your house is also covered.

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Garden furniture is expensive – so this policy protects you if your garden furniture is stolen or damaged (other than by storm or floods).

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You're covered up to £300 should a power cut defrost the freezer – or even if it just accidentally breaks down.

CREDIT CARDS
You get automatic cover of up to £500 against the fraudulent use of your credit cards.

STOLEN CASH
If up to £500 cash is stolen from your home, you can claim under this plan.

24-HR LEGAL HELPLINE
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Suspects wage gun battle as city braces itself for fresh attacks and more devices are found

Police say foreign brains were behind Bombay bombings

■ The Indians, suspecting an international terror ring, have found similarities between the Bombay blasts and the New York explosion

FROM CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN BOMBAY

TWO more bombs were discovered in central Bombay yesterday, three days after a wave of explosions shattered prime economic targets and killed more than 300 people. Police fought a gun battle last night with two men suspected of involvement in the bombings as the city braced itself for more attacks.

The continuing threat points to a concerted campaign to disrupt the economy by bringing chaos to India's commercial capital. Police and politicians are convinced that the attacks are being orchestrated or aided by a foreign organisation or government. Suspicion is focused on the Islamic world, although there is no firm evidence. Amarjit Singh Samra, the Bombay police commissioner, said last night that the explosives used last Friday were not available even to the Indian army and they had not previously been used in this country. He believed the bombings had international links: "The hand may be in Bombay, but the brain is far away."

The latest bombs were attached to scooters, the registered owners of which were arrested after failing to convince police that they had sold the vehicles to unidentified men for cash. While the owners were being interrogated police held a gun battle with two men suspected of involvement in the bombing campaign, named as Mangesh Pawar, a Hindu, and Philoo Khan, a Muslim. They had been identified by staff at two hotels that were bombed on Friday. Police said they were wanted for previous murders and attempted murders and opened fire with AK47 rifles as armed officers approached. The pair escaped in a car.

Three unexploded bombs have been uncovered since Friday. Those defused yesterday were found close to the gold and diamond market, and would have caused substantial numbers of casualties. Indian police have asked Interpol to help them trace an Iranian hotel and restaurant owner who disappeared with his family after Friday's explosions. All his properties were destroyed in anti-Muslim rioting in December and January. He has been named as Yakub Momin, who is believed to have headed the local group of Hezbullah Islami, a fundamentalist organisation. His Bombay address was found in an abandoned vehicle from which AK56 rifles and empty magazines were recovered on Friday.



Sharif: condemned wanton destruction

Indian security sources noted similarities between the Bombay blasts and the explosion at the World Trade Centre in New York, both of which occurred on a Friday. The kinds of explosives used appear to be similar, and most of the Bombay attacks were with car bombs, as in New York. Two American forensic experts are due in Bombay today to help establish if there is a link between the New York and Bombay atrocities.

Hindu politicians are describing the attacks as a Pakistani plot to destabilise India's financial capital and to stop the country becoming a serious economic power. Nawaz Sharif, the Pakistani prime minister, said the accusation was absurd and described the bombings as a wanton act of destruction. But the finger of suspicion seems to point towards involvement by an Islamic organisation.

The city is determined to fight back, and the Bombay Stock Exchange defiantly resumed limited trading yesterday amid the rubble and chaos of twisted girders, shattered walls and sagging roofs. Jobbers and brokers operated from the old ring because the new one, which opened four months ago, was damaged.

The index moved up slightly from Friday's level on a modest buying spree, a sign of confidence despite the blitz. It will, however, be at least three months before full trading is resumed.

Bombay has a vibrant underworld with important political connections. The so-called religious riots in December and January were politically inspired to get rid of Sudhakar Naik, the chief minister of Maharashtra state, who has just been replaced by Sharad Pawar, the former defence minister. Mr Pawar certainly has some influence over Bal Thackeray, leader of Shiv Sena, the extremist Hindu group that was blamed for most of the rioting in December and January. Far from seizing the opportunity presented by the perception of an Islamic threat and sending his hordes out in the streets, Mr Thackeray has appealed for calm.



Back in business: stockbrokers gathering yesterday outside the Bombay Stock Exchange, the trading hall of which was destroyed in Friday's chain bombings. The city returned to work, defying the campaign to disrupt the economy by bringing chaos to the commercial capital

Pretoria focuses on peace and economy

FROM MICHAEL HAMLYN IN JOHANNESBURG

SOUTH Africa is making renewed efforts this week to break away from spiralling violence and the economy. The results are likely to be mixed.

During the past weekend, when the dead from the previous two weeks of vengeance killing in Natal were buried, Nelson Mandela, president of the African National Congress, and Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, chief minister of KwaZulu and president of the Inkatha Freedom Party, made speeches in the strife-torn Natal Midlands urging their followers to turn to peace."We must think through our heads, not through our blood," said Mr Mandela.

At the same time peace moves between the two sides are going ahead, and European Commission observers in Natal are expected to announce an initiative aimed at brokering a new accord. A peace symbol will be launched this week to assist in marketing peace as a commodity.

On the economy, Derek Keys, the finance minister will introduce his 1993 budget tomorrow. The forecasts are that it will hit virtually everyone, since government spending has been running out of control, and with the recession and sanctions biting, taxation revenue has declined.

Mr Keys has tried to take some of the sting out of black protests against his measures by announcing that he proposes to introduce zero-rate value-added tax on certain essential foodstuffs. The imposition of VAT two years ago caused street protests led by the Confederation of South African Trade Unions.

However, a declaration by President de Klerk that government spending is to be curbed, and that state employees will not receive more than a 5 per cent pay increase, has led to noises from other black unions, especially teachers. Mr de Klerk yesterday met representatives of the most militant black teachers' organisation, the South African Democratic Teachers' Union, who insisted that the increase should be part of their agenda. Mr de Klerk insisted that the ceiling was not negotiable. However, Shepherd Mdlalana, the union president, said: "Our members will definitely not leave it like that."

Last week Mr de Klerk introduced a form of question time in parliament, where he was put under pressure about the future of George Bartlett, the minister of minerals and energy. Mr Bartlett, leader of the Natal National party, was transport minister and presided over two pieces of mismanagement and corruption. Mr de Klerk defended him without real conviction, but according to observers he could not do otherwise. The moment Mr de Klerk stops defending him, Mr Bartlett and the Natal caucus will join Inkatha.

Fight against terrorism

Egypt forces raid Islamic militants

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN CAIRO

IN A fresh attempt to limit the Islamic terrorist campaign against tourism in Egypt, the country's security forces have mounted a military-style operation in the Western desert to prevent gunmen infiltrating from Sudan through Libya. They also detained 424 Islamic suspects in Alexandria.

At the same time, aided by a helicopter gunship, police yesterday stormed a small Nile island in Upper Egypt and arrested 35 more suspected Islamic militants. A police officer was killed in shooting at the scene.

Reporting the operation along the desert border with Libya, the semi-official Cairo press said many Sudanese nationals had been turned back. "These measures have been taken in the wake of information that the military regime in Sudan and Iran are involved, through assisting and training terrorists, in the implementation of attacks against tourists," an Egyptian security official said.

The virtual sealing of the border came amid a growing conviction in Egypt and the West that Iran is financing and training guerrillas in Sudan with the aim of toppling the Egyptian regime and creating an Iranian-style Islamic republic.

The Egyptians claim to have secured the co-operation of Libya in the operation to keep out the Sudan-based terrorists. Because of continuing United Nations sanctions against Libya, the land crossing into Egypt in the Western desert has become much busier and easier to infiltrate.

Last week President Mubarak of Egypt threatened to attack Iranian warships which, he claimed, were planning to establish a base in Port Sudan. Since then relations between Egypt and Sudan have further deteriorated as a result of the Sudanese annexation of the large Egyptian university in Khartoum.

Egypt has lodged a formal complaint about the issue. "Police forces holding automatic rifles surrounded the university and seized all the cars in the garage. They prevented us from entering," said Ahmed Ibrahim, a teacher in the faculty of arts at the university, which has 27,000 students. He said Sudanese police had banned Egyptians from collecting their papers and documents from the campus, which the Sudanese education ministry said would be renamed Nilein University and remodelled to follow the Sudanese curriculum.

The mass arrests in Alexandria came after even bigger security sweeps in parts of Cairo and Upper Egypt, where well over 2,000 Islamic suspects have been arrested in the past few months. Many have claimed that they were ill-treated while in custody.

Alexandria still attracts many Western tourists, including those seeking out the places immortalised by Lawrence Durrell in *The Alexandria Quartet*. A tourist police official there said yesterday: "The tourist situation in the city is now completely stable."

In Cairo, additional guards have been imposed on the Naguib Mahfouz café and restaurant in the famous Khan Khalili market, a prime attraction for foreign visitors, after Islamic militants threatened to bomb the building.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Policeman sentenced to death for sex crimes

A MOROCCAN police commissioner was sentenced to death yesterday and 11 senior officers were jailed at the end of a sex crimes trial involving the coercion of more than 500 women and girls into violent sexual acts that were videotaped secretly (Christopher Walker writes).

During the hearing, one lawyer said that the 118 videos, some of which were screened in the Casablanca courtroom behind closed doors, were "not just pornographic but also horror films".

Haj Muhammad Mustapha Tabet, 54, a chief police commissioner in charge of the special branch in a district of Casablanca, became a figure of national hatred during amonth-long trial that has shaken the government and shocked the mainly Muslim country of 24 million people.

The court also sentenced Taber's immediate superior, Ahmed Ouachi, to life imprisonment for trying to protect his subordinate.

Iran strikes hospital

Paris: Iranian warplanes bombed a French-run hospital in the Kurdish area of Iraq, killing at least six civilians, French charities and Danielle Mitterrand reported yesterday (Charles Bremner writes).

The French president's wife, who runs a human rights organisation, said that at least six Kurdish Iraqis died in the *raids on the hospital at Raniya*, near the Iranian frontier and inside the allied air-exclusion zone. The hospital is in an area controlled by the Democratic Party of Iranian Kurdistan, a rebel group. The French staff were unharmed but have had to leave the area.

Staff mutiny halts paper

New York: A mutiny by staff, who tried to bring out their own edition, yesterday halted publication of the *New York Post* (James Bone writes).

Journalists rebelled after Abraham Hirschfeld, the paper's prospective buyer, announced plans to dismiss 272 workers and ordered the editor to leave the building. The *Post* has had financial problems for more than a decade.

Refugee plan

Geneva: Sadako Ogata, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, says that the repatriation from neighbouring countries of 1.3 million Mozambican refugees who fled civil war and famine will begin next month. *(AFP)*

The bear truth

Tokyo: When Yukio ("Mr Snowman"), at over 30 the oldest polar bear in Japan, died here its minders confirmed what they had long suspected: the animal was not male, but female. *(Reuter)*

Settlers put pressure on Rabin

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN JERUSALEM

JEWISH settlers demonstrated yesterday against the Israeli government, protesting about an upsurge in violence and in an effort to prevent Yitzhak Rabin, the prime minister, from making any concessions during his meeting with President Clinton.

At the Kuneitra checkpoint in the Israeli-occupied Golan Heights, hundreds of settlers from local farms tried to force their way past United Nations truce observers across the ceasefire line into Syrian-held territory. Police officers said that several demonstrators were detained during the protest, which was intended to draw attention to the left-wing coalition government's reported plans for a phased withdrawal from the captured Golan Heights in return for peace with Syria.

"We have seen Rabin in six months change his mind 30 times," said Eli Malka, one of the leaders of the settlers who insist that the Labour-led government should not relinquish any territory from the strategic plateau captured in 1967. Although details of Mr Rabin's three-and-a-half-hour meeting with Mr Clinton at the White House yesterday were not disclosed, the Israeli leader was widely expected to set out his secret plans for a deal with Damascus, which is likely to be unveiled at the resumption of the Middle East peace talks, due to take place on April 20.

In Jerusalem and the occupied West Bank, similar protests took place yesterday afternoon and evening, this time by angry Jewish settlers demonstrating about deteriorating security after attacks by Palestinians. In the latest incidents, two Jewish settlers hiking near the West Bank settlement of Eli were run over and killed by a Palestinian hit and run driver. After the attack, heavily armed settlers went on the rampage in the Palestinian town of Ramallah near by.

Further north, in the Israeli town of Afula, a Palestinian was captured by armed civilians, including a Knesset member from the right-wing Tsomet party, after he stabbed an American tourist in the back. In a separate incident in the town of Beit Shemesh near Jerusalem, an Israeli motorist was stabbed by a Palestinian.

The government has promised to build new security fencing around some of the most vulnerable Jewish settlements in the Gaza Strip and the police have announced plans to train up to 2,000 new officers.

British crew lost as storm hits freighter

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

THE storm that swept the East Coast of the United States sank a freighter with British crewmen on board yesterday as it headed out into the Atlantic off Canada.

Rescuers were searching the seas off Nova Scotia for the 33 British and Chinese crew of the *Gold Bond Conveyer*, which sank 65 miles off Cape Sable Island in 60 ft waves as it carried gypsum ore from Halifax to Tampa, Florida.

Major Michael Dorey, the Canadian coastguard in charge of the search, said that seven of the crew held British passports but appeared to be from Hong Kong. He said that although two planes and four rescue helicopters were continuing the search, it was unlikely that any crew members would be found alive. One body was recovered from the sea last night.

A British vessel, the *Havkong*, was two nautical miles away when the *Conveyer* got into trouble but was unable to rescue the crew before the Liberian-registered freighter went down.

The storm left at least 112 people dead from Cuba to Quebec. At least 26 people died in Florida as 50 tornadoes whipped across the Sunshine State. Seven died in Alabama, five in North Carolina, four in both Georgia and Virginia, two in Kentucky and West Virginia, one in Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, and South Carolina. The northeastern states also suffered casualties. Pennsylvania reported 19 deaths with 14 deaths in New York state.

Australian referendum delayed

FROM ROBERT COCKBURN IN SYDNEY

PAUL Keating, the Australian prime minister, having won a mandate at the weekend to carry out his commitment to turn Australia into an independent republic, yesterday ruled out a referendum on the matter during his three years in office.

He has not, however, dismissed the possibility that the government will change the Australian flag, removing the Union Jack and leaving only the Southern Cross. The government has the legal power to change the flag.

The Australian Republican Movement sees Mr Keating's election as increasing the chances for the creation of a republic. He is perceived as one of the most powerful Labor politicians Australia has had and capable of carrying out all of his plans.

The author Thomas Keneally, who heads the Australian Republican Movement, said of Labor's election victory: "As much as the other side tried to separate the economics from the republic, the two are connected because the coming of the republic could be the end of the culture of dependence on other people which has marked Australia."

Professor Geoffrey Blainey, a principal speaker for the pro-monarchists, said yesterday that Mr Keating had decided to pick a team of people to redraft the constitution. "He will obviously pick people who will give him the kind of constitution he would like; but the kind of constitution, when it is placed before the people, the people of Australia may not like," he said.

At his first press conference since the election, Mr Keating was asked yesterday if the Queen had called to congratulate him. He smiled and said: "No, she hasn't rung."

Siege of religious cult draws the profit motive

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN WACO

THE siege of a heavily armed religious cult in the heart of Texas presents a peculiarly American spectacle as it drags into its sixteenth day. At the centre are the 105 cult followers waiting for Armageddon; surrounding them are at least 400 armed and frustrated federal agents and encircling them in turn are thousands of entrepreneurs eager to cash in on the strangest and most marketable story of the year.

David Koresh, the cult's fanatical leader, is disgruntled at the way his unfinished saga is being used for the gain of others. "He takes great offence [at] the making of money out of this tragedy," the FBI announced.

He is particularly piqued by the fact that his mother, Bonnie Haldeman, has sold her film rights to the story for $75,000 (£54,000). According to the Los Angeles film agents, cruising Waco like well-dressed barracudas, Mrs Haldeman was diddled.

Part of Mr Koresh's outrage may stem from the news that he, too, has been offered a film contract, to which he has not responded, while in Oklahoma, the NBC television network has already commenced the construction of a set for *Ranch Apocalypse, the Movie*. Filming is due to start at the end of next month, whether or not the siege is over.

But the film agents, the carrion crows of every American tragedy, are not alone in eying the Mount Carmel compound for profit. On Sunday, the observation point near the compound more closely resembled a country fair, as the public flocked to watch the activity; one step ahead of them came the entrepreneurs. Here you could buy a "Koresh-burger" or a baseball cap with a new explanation for Waco: "We Ain't Coming Out".

In the space of two weeks, Waco has become a magnet for neo-Nazis, the Ku Klux Klan, Bible bashers, libertarians, cranks, gun enthusiasts and lawyers, a motley group divided on every possible issue except their desire to appear on national television.

But the one person who has done most to turn the siege into a public relations fiesta is Mr Koresh. Finding himself cut off from the outside world, he has taken to communicating directly with the media by means of sheets hung from the compound windows. The latest reads: "FBI broke negotiations. We want press." The FBI's tacticians are now plainly focused on using Mr Koresh's vanity to winkle him out of the compound. At every press conference, like a mantra, Bob Ricks, the FBI special agent whose unenviable task it is to put a public face on the authorities' negotiations, announces that if Mr Koresh surrenders, the judicial system will provide him with more publicity than he has ever had. More impressively, he says it with a straight face.



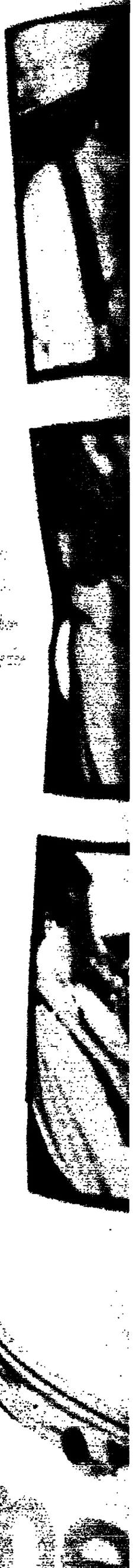
Koresh: mother has sold film rights

Dick Swensen, of the FBI, said that Kathy Schroeder, 34, who was released last weekend, had identified a dead body in the compound. The FBI said the next-of-kin had not been informed, but that the person was not British.

The American W

Susan Kent
American Airlines Flight Attendant.





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Delors to meet Clinton for pre-trade war negotiations

■ If this week's talks fail, Mickey Kantor, the US trade representative, seems all too ready to push Europe and America to the brink of a trade war, and perhaps beyond

FROM GEORGE BROCK IN BRUSSELS

HASTILY arranged talks in Washington on Thursday between President Clinton and Jacques Delors, president of the European Commission, were announced last night as Community officials began preparing counter-measures against new trade sanctions that may be imposed by America next week.

Sir Leon Brittan, the EC trade commissioner, returned to Brussels last night to decide the Twelve's reply to the threat of punitive tariffs on European exports of equipment for public services and utilities, after last-minute negotiations were abruptly cancelled last weekend. EC officials are adjusting to the shock of discovering that Mr Clinton's new trade negotiators seem ready to push Europe and America to the brink of a trade war and perhaps beyond. They fear that other transatlantic trade talks may unravel in the worsening atmosphere.

The souring of the transatlantic trade dialogue caught Brussels by surprise. A looming trade war finds the EC with respectable arguments on many trade questions but politically incoherent: the Community's main governments are in trouble at home and divided over a joint trade strategy.

Officials working for Sir Leon have done their utmost since January to give their American counterparts time to find their way around the tangled skein of talks on anything from corn gluten to Airbus.

Harsh words from new Clintonites were dismissed at first as errors of inexperience or as the automatic operation of dispute machinery set in motion by the Bush administration. When that pacific reasoning was undermined by a stream of uncompromisingly tough rhetoric from Mr Clinton downwards, Sir Leon's officials cautioned that actions were more important than words. "Whatever we do, we are not talking the language of retaliation," one of Sir Leon's assistants said yesterday, adding that "the risk of a war of words becoming a war of deeds is enormous".

The contrast between this tip-toeing prudence in Brussels and the cavalier aggression of Mickey Kantor, the US trade representative, is stark. Mr Kantor's chief negotiator called his boss last Friday for last-minute instructions before flying to Brussels for talks, due to take place yesterday, on the dispute over public procurement. The American attack is directed at Article 29 of the EC's recent directive on the purchase of telecommunications and other equipment for public services which discriminates in favour of European suppliers.

Mr Kantor asked if the EC had scrapped Article 29. On being told that the offending clause was only up for discussion at the meeting, Mr Kantor cancelled the talks without contacting Sir Leon or anyone else in Brussels.

Mr Kantor may hold the title of ambassador, but he has no taste for diplomacy. He is now within days of triggering punitive sanctions that will start a tit-for-tat trade war. Washington's deadline for either a settlement or the start of retaliation measures is next Monday. Sir Leon has a straightforwardly political judgment to make: how long can he afford to smile and talk the language of conciliation?

French politicians of all parties think that Sir Leon is wasting his time talking peace when he should be preparing the EC for war. The advent of the Clinton administration in Washington and tough talk on trade has fired up French resentment of America once again, and already shifted the delicate balance of power inside the Community on trade issues.

Last autumn, France was on the defensive and isolated as the EC moved, sluggishly and late, towards a deal on farm subsidies with Washington which should have unblocked the entire six-year world trade negotiation in Geneva. France is now on the attack.



Heading for an exit: Romanians crowding around the gates of the Argentine embassy in Bucharest yesterday after Buenos Aires announced it would be issuing immigration visas. More than 250,000 people have left Romania since the bloody overthrow of communism in 1989

Power struggle deepens

Weakened Yeltsin runs out of options

FROM ANNE MCELVOY IN MOSCOW AND MICHAEL BINYON IN BONN

PRESIDENT Yeltsin yesterday accused Russia's Congress of People's Deputies of seeking to restore communist rule and endangering order in the state by its attempts to slow the pace of reform and prevent a referendum to resolve the constitutional crisis.

"The outcome of the work of the eighth congress inspires deep apprehension," Mr Yeltsin said in a statement released thorough Vyacheslav Kostikov, his spokesman. "Its decisions have seriously worsened the imbalance of power and endangered the country's stability." The declaration gave no hint of what steps Mr Yeltsin intends to take to combat the diminishing of his authority by the congress, which ended its most aggressive session yet on Saturday by rejecting the president's proposals for power-sharing and vetoing the referendum he intends to hold at the end of next month.

Mr Yeltsin seems unsure of his next move and the delay in announcing his response to the defeat at the hands of the legislature further weakens his position. There has been a flurry of statements from the president and his aides con-



Rutskoi: supporters seek share of power

demning the congress's obstructiveness but the rhetoric cannot conceal the fact that the presidency is running out of options. There was some cheer for Mr Yeltsin last night when he won support from Helmut Kohl, the German chancellor. Herr Kohl threw his country's political and economic weight behind Mr Yeltsin in an attempt to strengthen the Russian leader in his battle with his parliamentary opponents.

The chancellor issued a declaration saying that Mr Yeltsin's reform policies "lie as much in the interests of Russia and its people as in the interests of all other countries". The president's policies had strengthened trust throughout the world in Russian policy, and this had lead to greater international security.

Herr Kohl gave a warning that Mr Yeltsin and his policies were being threatened by people "who want to stop the internal reform process in Russia". He insisted that the West and especially the Group of Seven industrialised countries had repeatedly underlined their interest in the reform process.

The Russian leader wants to press ahead with a referendum without the backing of congress but it is unlikely that the constitutional court to whom such a project would be referred to determine its legality would support him. Valeri Zorkin, the court's chairman, has spoken out against a referendum, saying that it would dangerously divide Russia.

In an indication of a new strategy from Russia's "centrist" forces, Oleg Rumyantsev, chairman of the constitutional commission, called for early elections for both president and parliament as the only way out of the conflict. Mr Rumyantsev demanded that Mr Yeltsin share his powers with Aleksandr Rutskoi, the vice-president, a supporter of Civic Union and its probable candidate when presidential elections are held. "This would allow economic reform to proceed on the basis of consensus", he said.

Health care, page 17

Old-boy network bound to win

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN PARIS

PRESIDENT Mitterrand will not decide for two more weeks whom he wants to appoint as prime minister. As the French general election enters its first round on Sunday, however, the country already knows one big feature in the next prime minister's biography: his mind was honed at the Ecole Nationale de l'Administration, the country's most distinguished college.

Valéry Giscard d'Estaing and Jacques Chirac, the chiefs of the conservative UDF and RPR parties, as well as Edouard Balladur, the Gaullist mandarin whom M Chirac wants to take the prime minister's job, all studied at the school, the postgraduate nursery of the civil service and political top brass.

If the UDF scores better than the Gaullist RPR on March 28 and M Mitterrand wants to stir up trouble, he might choose François Léotard, the centrist young Turk. But the école old-boys' association need not worry. M Léotard, too, is an "enarque", along with the lion's share of the leading lights in all the country's principal political parties.

Although derided for years by comedians as supercilious and out of touch, the intellectually super-charged "enarque" technocrats have come in the 1990s to exercise an unprecedented grasp on the levers of the French state.

The voters might think they are ejecting the discredited Socialist "mafia" which has run the country for most of the past 12 years, but they are really only replacing one band of "enarques" with brothers and a few sisters from the same tiny caste. The last conservative government in the late 1980s and the present Socialist one have each numbered a dozen or so "enarque" ministers. Comparisons with Oxford and Cambridge, Harvard or Yale are misleading. The school, founded in 1945 by Michel Debré, the Gaullist prime minister, turns out only 100 graduates a year.

Brice Lalonde, leader of one wing of the Ecology coalition, says: "They are all part of a little nobility which runs this country like a private fief. We need some Robin Hoods to open up this little band of *diplomés*." His green group are scoring their healthy 15 or so per cent of the electoral support not so much because of their love of the environment as their stance as outsiders battling an entrenched ruling class typified by the "enarques".

A fine illustration of the system came last week, M Lalonde said. After the disclosure that M Mitterrand's staff had been bugging telephones illegally, he had tried to find out who was ultimately responsible. Gilles Ménage and Louis Schweitzer, former chefs de cabinet of M Mitterrand and Laurent Fabius, the prime minister of the time, are now serving as chiefs of EDF, the state electricity monopoly, and Renault, the state-owned motor firm. Of course, both are "enarques".

Italians question liberal

FROM JOHN PHILLIPS IN ROME

THE leader of the Italian Liberal Party was placed under investigation yesterday, reviving pressure on the fragile government coalition on the eve of the official start today of the campaign for Italy's electoral reform referendum.

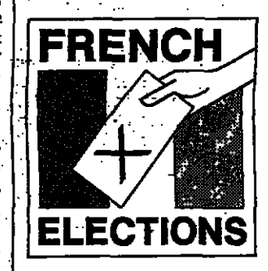
Judges in Milan said that they had advised Renato Altissimo that he faced potential proceedings in connection with an illegal payment made by a shipbuilding company in Genoa. The balding Signor Altissimo, who enjoys a reputation as a fun-loving devotee of Rome piano bars and night clubs, was one of seven parliamentarians to be placed under enquiry for the first time yesterday by the judges heading "Operation Clean Hands".

The development marked the first major involvement in the scandal of the liberals, one of the four parties in the coalition of the prime minister, Giuliano Amato. Signor Altissimo will now come under pressure to resign, creating further embarrassment in the ranks of the government, which faces a possible confidence vote at the end of a debate on corruption in the Chamber of Deputies today.

The latest setback for the government comes as campaigning starts for the electoral reform referendum that party leaders hope will provide a way out of the scandal.

The vote to be held on April 18 on ending the proportional representation system is expected to be followed by an early general election, either in the autumn with a radically reformed system if the result is "yes" or sooner under the old rules if Italians reject moving toward a two-party system. A "no" vote would accentuate the existing tendency to fractured parliaments and instability, plunging the country into still deeper chaos, political experts say.

A similar referendum in June 1991 on reforming the existing voting system received overwhelming support.



Danes urged to back Maastricht

FROM CHRISTOPHER FOLLETT IN COPENHAGEN

POUL Nyrup Rasmussen, the Danish prime minister, launched the ruling Social Democratic party's campaign for the second Maastricht referendum in May with a call yesterday for a clear "yes" vote to prevent Denmark being isolated from Europe. He declared: "We cannot stand alone with our back turned against Europe."

Danish voters will decide on May 18 whether to accept a revised deal on the Maastricht treaty, agreed with Copenhagen's European Community partners at the Edinburgh summit in December, which allows the country to opt out of a common currency and joint defence policy.

One of the main themes of Mr Rasmussen's campaign will be that the Edinburgh deal keeps Denmark out of all the moves towards European union to which many Danes object, while emphasising the importance that continued full EC membership would have on Denmark's economic future. Seven of the eight parties in the Danish parliament are to campaign for the Edinburgh deal, and all opinion polls are pointing towards a "yes" result.

Support is falling slightly though, with a poll in the financial daily *Borsen* showing 53 per cent of Danes in favour, 31 per cent against, and 16 per cent undecided on the Maastricht deal. The survey also suggested that, while 43 per cent of Social Democrats would support the deal, 40 per cent remained opposed.

"I intend to put all my personal prestige behind getting a clear majority of Social Democrats to vote with a resounding 'yes' in the referendum. The result will be a clear 'yes' on the day," Mr Rasmussen said.

The leader of the Social Democrats, Denmark's biggest party, formed a four-party centre-left coalition in January after the collapse of the ten-year-old Conservative-Liberal government over a refugee scandal.

Social Democratic voters tipped the balance towards a 51 per cent "no" last June by ignoring their leaders' advice in the first referendum to back the Maastricht treaty on closer European political and economic union.

Mr Rasmussen welcomed the weekend decision of the left-wing Socialist People's party to change tack and campaign for a "yes".

Leading article, page 19

Kohl's austerity package brings hint of spring

BY MICHAEL BINYON

HELMUT Kohl's *coup de théâtre* in snatching an eleventh-hour victory from the complex negotiations on an austerity package has sent a springtime surge of confidence through Germany. Many people hope the chancellor's masterstroke will swiftly be translated into a cut in interest rates, an economic revival and an end to a long winter of political bickering and stalemate.

Politicians of all persuasions yesterday praised Herr Kohl's skill in piloting the "solidarity pact" through the bitter arguments that have paralysed Bonn for the past four months and cast doubts on the government's ability to meet the political and economic challenges of unification.

Few newspapers doubted yesterday that the widespread acceptance of a package that will ensure an annual flow of DM110 billion (£46 billion) to eastern Germany, while not raising income tax until after next year's general election, will revive Herr Kohl's political standing and boost the chances of another victory by his Christian Democratic party next year.

The euphoria of the deal has, however, overshadowed the unresolved details of the package and masked doubts about its viability. Economists have pointed out that many of the figures do not add up; that there is very little economising in government expenditure; that much depends on a swift revival of business confidence; and that the economic consolidation package must now be matched by restraint in wage rises, a boost in investment, success in combating fraudulent claims for unemployment benefit, and continued co-operation between the Christian Democrat-led government and the 16 *Länder*, mostly governed by the Social Democrats.



Kohl: hopes high for interest-rate cut

The first key reaction will be that of the Bundesbank, which was generally assumed to be waiting for agreement on the package before risking additional interest-rate cuts. The government, which has no control over the central bank's policies, now hopes to see rates cut on Thursday.

The weekend agreement has two main political results. The first is a long-term strengthening of the individual states vis-à-vis the federal government in Bonn. The decision to reapportion value-added tax revenues from 1995, raising the *Länder's* share from 37 to 44 per cent, will give them greater fiscal independence and make it easier for eastern states to catch up with the west. The second result is a new sense of purpose in Bonn to combat the general disillusion with politics and a sense of powerlessness in the face of Germany's need to adapt to a world role. This is important in the attempt to create confidence to overcome the recession. Tyll Necker, president of the Federation of German Industry, said the deal would reassure the business sector that the political establishment was capable of decision-making.

Herr Kohl wants to take advantage of this to speed up implementation of tougher restrictions on asylum-seekers and to force agreement on the deployment of German troops for international peacekeeping. The need to halt the continuing flood of asylum-seekers was underlined by a dramatic appeal to Bonn at the weekend from the authorities in Rostock, where the situation is said to be explosive and there are fears of new racial riots.

With more than 1,400 people arriving in the city in one weekend, most of them Romanians smuggled across the border from Poland, the asylum hostels are full and the would-be immigrants are being housed in tents in fields.

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ROYAL NAVY

Morillon to return to Srbrenica as medical teams tell of suffering in Muslim enclave

UN general leaves siege town to meet Serb leader

FROM TIM JUDAH IN BELGRADE

LIEUTENANT General Philippe Morillon yesterday left the besieged Muslim town of Srbrenica, where he has set up camp, to meet General Ratko Mladic, the Bosnian Serb military leader, but was expected to return last night. Lt Gen Morillon, the commander in chief of United Nations forces in Bosnia-Herzegovina, stunned and angered Serb leaders on Saturday when he announced that he would remain in the Muslim town until they permitted aid to get through, the wounded to be evacuated and military observers to be stationed in the town.

The Serbian media is still insisting that Lt Gen Morillon is a prisoner in Srbrenica. However, UN staff and workers with the French medical charity, Médecins sans Frontières, who were in the enclave with him were giving graphic and moving accounts yesterday of what they had seen there.

"There are thousands of people sleeping in the snow. Many have not eaten for four or five days," Laurens Jolles, of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, said. He said it was impossible to estimate how many people are now living in Srbrenica although the figure is said to be 60,000.

In the past few weeks the Serbs have succeeded in crushing resistance from smaller Muslim enclaves near by, and refugees are pouring into Srbrenica. Many are arriving from Konjevic Polje, where British troops were targeted deliberately by Serb gunners on Friday, and which was reported to have fallen yesterday.

Mr Jolles said that initially the Srbrenica authorities had tried to stop Lt Gen Morillon leaving but when they consented to his departure, women and children blocked his path, beseeching him not to go. "They were frightened." Many of them, he said, were refugees from places where UN forces had visited and which had been shelled by Serbs after they had left. Lt Gen Morillon then made his dramatic decision to stay.

"Within an hour they had cleaned out the post office. Then he went to the window and told the people: 'I won't abandon you'. There was a ceremony, and the UN flag was raised. Local leaders said if Morillon succeeded in saving them they would rename the town Morillongrad."

Simon Mardel, a British doctor with the World Health Organisation, said in Zagreb that numerous Muslim civilians were dying from starvation or wounds from Serb artillery attacks. He said that the torment and carnage he saw in a week in Srbrenica and Konjevic Polje surpassed his previous experiences in Ethiopia, Liberia and Afghanistan. "We were traumatised by what we saw. We were very sad to go because we felt were leaving these people to an almost certain fate," he said at the weekend.

In Srbrenica he examined 96 patients — amputees, paraplegics, those suffering from chest and face wounds — crammed into 14 cold rooms of a maternity ward, all of whom had been operated on without anaesthetic. "Most had severe infections and there was a considerable smell of necrotic [dead] tissue in every room. There was no penicillin whatsoever."

Many residents were reduced to eating a crude bread made from grinding down the cores of corn cobs, mixed with buds from branches and berries from which tea was brewed. "The corn cores were causing a lot of abdominal pain and some patients told me people had died from it," Dr Mardel added.

Prince's visit, page 1

Officer praised

Paris: The stand in Srbrenica of Lieutenant General Philippe Morillon, a Frenchman, drew praise yesterday from opposition leaders in France, except from the far-right National Front's Jean-Marie Le Pen, who said the plaudits were "one step from plunging into the grotesque". *(AFP)*



Calming influence: a Belgrade policeman placating an angry customer, one of many who blocked streets yesterday in a bid to withdraw their money after the bank's owner fled the country

Food parcels just miss family home

FROM JOEL BRAND IN GORAZDE

MEHMED Polutak, 70, and his son, Juso, were the first Gorazde residents to see the parcels of food and medicines dropped from 10,000ft by the American operation to bring relief aid to eastern Bosnia.

Just after midnight last week, Mehmed awoke to the drone of what he knew was an American plane. He woke up Juso, 34, and they went outside to peer into the dark.

First they heard the dull thuds of parcels hitting the snow-covered ground in the woods above the village. The Polutaks live three miles outside Gorazde, an industrial and agricultural community of 50,000 people cut off from food and aid for ten months.

Then there was what seemed to be an explosion. "It hit so hard that I thought it was a shell," said Mehmed, smiling, standing next to the twisted heap of American army rations a few hours after it landed. The parachute of the last parcel to drop had failed to open properly and the food crashed down, just behind their small home, demolishing a few tree branches and a clothes line. "I saw something dark fly off and hit the barn and I told my son, 'The bastards are bombing us!'" If the parcel had travelled another ten yards it would have destroyed the house, probably killing everyone in it.

The half-tonne parcel contained hundreds of meals ready-to-eat, American military rations, most of which exploded on impact. Service-green tubes of peanut butter and spaghetti with meatballs, among others dishes, broke open, creating a foul-smelling mess. It was not exactly what the Polutak family and the growing throng of neighbours had expected, but it was enough.

For the first two weeks of the American operation, the people of this besieged Muslim community in eastern Bosnia-Herzegovina waited anxiously for the C130 cargo planes to help them in their fight against starvation and to prove that the world had not forgotten them. Now they knew it had not.

Commander plays hand with finesse

BY MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

AMID the slaughter and horror of Bosnia, it is not unusual to find men with a mission. On the one hand, there are evil men with a mission for killing, local warlords who incite their supporters to murder and rape to gain hegemony over their slice of Bosnia.

On the other, there are men like the French commander, Lieutenant General Philippe Morillon, whose mission is to stop the bloodshed and to save the lives of civilians targeted by the guns, hundreds of whom are now dying of starvation and war injuries



Morillon: diplomacy among the savagery

in towns besieged by the Serbs in eastern Bosnia-Herzegovina. Lt Gen Morillon has been the commander of the United Nations forces in Bosnia since last October.

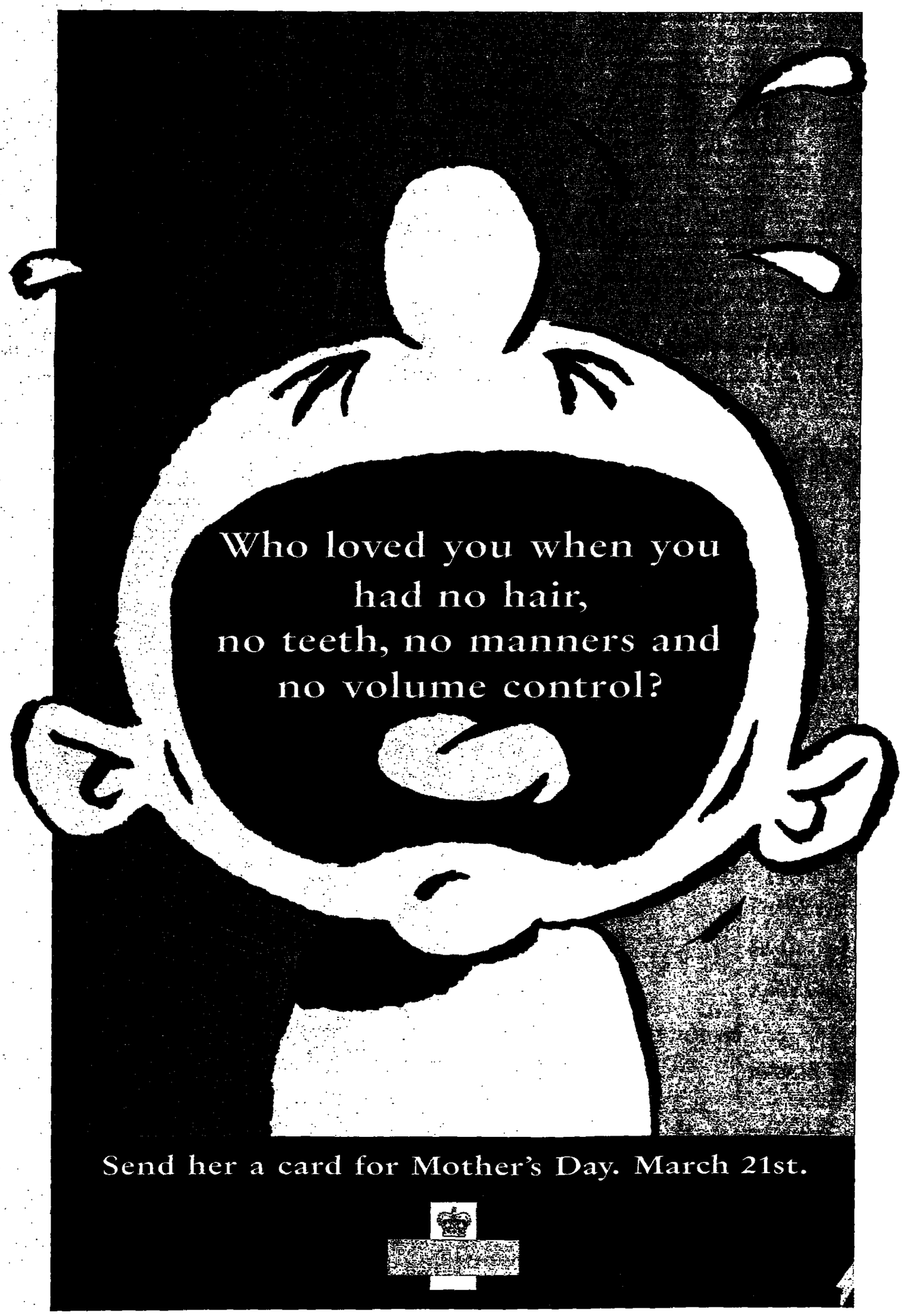
There are many soldiers among the 7,000 UN personnel in Bosnia who have seen babies staked to posts, women with their breasts sliced off and men with limbs severed. The UN commander has seen such sights and yet he has to deal diplomatically with the military commanders who must take ultimate responsibility for these acts of savagery. His decision to commit himself to Srbrenica, refusing to move out until the Serbs allow food convoys through to the dying Muslim population, is typical of the man.

Lt Gen Morillon's stated mission is to mastermind the distribution of food and medicine by road convoy to the victims of the war. A military plan was drawn up to carry this out. It involves the planned distribution of 235 tonnes of aid a day to the Bihac area, 235 tonnes to Banja Luka, 90 to Mostar, 350 to the Vitez area, 350 to Sarajevo, and 245 tonnes to eastern Bosnia.

However, as General Mackenzie found, the job entails far more than supervising the delivery of food parcels. Every day, Lt Gen Morillon is engaged in sensitive peace negotiations which demand the brinkmanship qualities of the most astute poker player.

There are times when this former platoon leader in the French Foreign Legion and tank battalion commander erupts in frustration when he feels he is getting nowhere. When he first arrived in Bosnia, he wanted to save Sarajevo. His vision was to demilitarise the Bosnian capital. So far, the UN chief has failed.

Now, with the focus of attention switching from Sarajevo to eastern Bosnia, the French commander, 57, has set up a temporary base in the post office at Srbrenica. Yesterday, he arranged to meet Lieutenant General Ratko Mladic, the Serb commander, in a location a few miles from Srbrenica to negotiate aid, before returning to the besieged town.



'We must get rid of John Rae'

The governors wanted a change — but Westminster's controversial head was not going to be forced out without a fight. John Rae concludes his series with a tale of intrigue in the common room

The publication of my wife's book, *A World Apart*, in 1983 caused a furore. The fact that what she had to say was true did not make the references to homosexuals in the common room and Young Woodleys in the study corridor any less provocative. But we could have weathered the storm.

A week after the book's publication, however, a new dimension emerged. It was claimed that two short passages in the book were based on individuals who could be identified, including a member of the Westminster staff. If the governors and the common room believed that I had seen those passages in typescript, my position as headmaster would be untenable. *I was sure I had not seen them. But* this was difficult to prove and I could tell that my friends on the staff and the governing body had doubts.

My future hung in the balance. I began to consider what sort of deal I could do with the governing body if enough of its members turned against me.

When the governing body met, Daphne's book was not on the agenda; that was to be discussed at the end of the meeting after I had departed. What *had* appeared on the agenda at short notice was a new proposal that Westminster should join the Assisted Places Scheme, which provided taxpayers' money to send bright state schoolchildren to fee-paying schools. Whoever put that on the agenda had an excellent sense of timing.

I spoke against the proposal as forcefully as I could but my arguments carried less weight because in the minds of some governors my future was uncertain. The meeting decided by a narrow majority that Westminster should apply to join the Assisted Places Scheme. A policy that I had publicly opposed since its inception had now been accepted by the school of which I was headmaster. If I needed an opportunity to resign on a matter of principle rather than await the governors' verdict on Daphne's book, this was it. But I remained silent.

I have no doubt that those governors who opposed my regime thought that the combined effect of the row over Daphne's book and the vote in favour of the Assisted Places Scheme would be enough to force me to resign. They wanted a different Westminster and I stood in their way. I do not think they planned a coup; they saw an opportunity and took it.

In the evening after the governing-body meeting, Edward Carpenter [Dean and chairman of governors] told me that the governors had discussed the implications of Daphne's book for a long time and had not even considered whether they should ask me to resign. They did think, however, that "in all the circumstances" it would be wise of me to look for another job sometime in the next two years. It was not an ultimatum, just advice. By 1985, I would have been at Westminster for 15 years and that was probably time to be moving on. Meanwhile, the governors had confidence in me and would make that clear to the staff.

The term wound its way through the longest hot summer of the century. Exam candidates wilted in the heat. Exhausted masters discovered matters of principle in the most trivial incidents. When tempers were well and truly frayed, two boys made a hoax bomb telephone call to the police during afternoon school and the buildings were suddenly overrun with alsatians. I counted the days until the end of term.

> It was the first time in 13 years that the governors had raised the question of discipline

The governing body always met on the last day of term. When the main business was over, one of the governors, who thought I should have resigned earlier in the term, made a long complaint about the poor impression the pupils gave to outsiders: the boys were walking round Dean's Yard with their shirt-tails hanging out; the nonchalant attitude of the cricket XI had been adversely commented on by visiting teams; four-letter words had been heard in the cloisters. As soon as he had finished, two other governors came in quickly to contribute corroborating evidence. It had obviously been planned in advance.

It was, I think, the first time in 13 years that the governors had raised the question of discipline. I had from time to time tried to interest them in the more serious issues, such as the use of illegal drugs and stealing, but they had shown no appetite for discussing them. Discipline was the headmaster's responsibility. So I was angry that these three governors should spring such disciplinary trivia on me at the end of a governing-body meeting.

But I understood their motives. They wanted to keep my departure on the agenda. That they wanted me out was confirmed shortly after when one of them told a friend of ours at a dinner party: "We must get rid of John Rae."

There is a lot to be said for a real threat in preference to a vague anxiety. I knew who my enemies were and looked forward to outmanoeuvring them until I had found another job. But my position was not as strong as I would have liked. In January 1984, Westminster's formal application to join the Assisted Places Scheme was made public.

I sometimes wondered whether my very public opposition to the scheme had been a miscalculation or, worse, a self-indulgence. That the scheme was bad I had no doubt, but I had been wrong in thinking that it would sour relations between the independent schools and the state schools. Once the scheme was up and running, it ceased to be a contentious issue and as long as there was a Conservative government, its future was assured.

Once again I had quickly to dispel any rumours that I was thinking of resigning. In the common room, as on the governing body, there were men who would have been glad to see me go. Every headmaster has his enemies on the staff, though enemies is too strong a word since most of the time they are no more than what the Duke of Wellington called "croakers" — those who find fault with every decision.

Their tactics were to embarrass me on those public occasions, such as the announcements in break on Monday mornings, when the whole staff was gathered together. When I had made my announcements, one of them would ask a question designed to put me on the defensive. "Headmaster, has any decision been made about . . ?" Another croaker would follow, directing his question, not at me, but at his fellow conspirator. "Am I not right in thinking that we were assured that a decision would be made by today?"

How childish it all seems in retrospect, how easy it is to imagine that all I had to do was tell them to shut up. But they chose their subjects carefully, so that an angry or dismissive response would have sounded not strong but petulant. I did not want to lose face or be drawn into a public wrangle so I tried to give a calm reply, though there were times when my heart was racing and I had to speak slowly to avoid revealing that I was nervous.

My aim was to retain the initiative. I had no intention of being hustled into a premature resignation by an unrepresentative group of governors and masters. I would resign before the two years were up but I would choose the moment. In the meantime, I would conduct a fighting retreat, running the school, looking for another job, scanning the horizon for hostile governors and keeping one step ahead of the croakers.

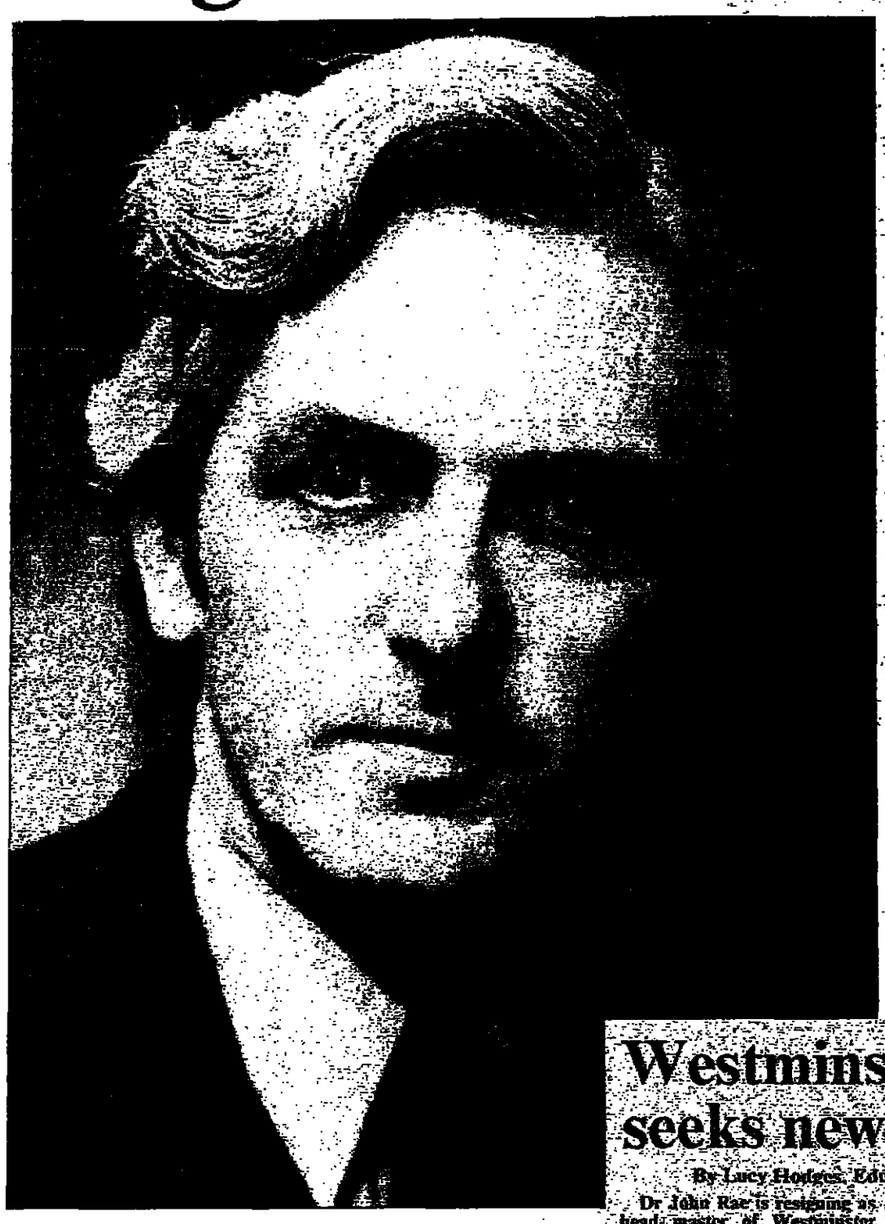
For 30 years, I had been a schoolmaster. It had been a good life but I had never given another career a chance and I wanted to prove to myself that I could succeed away from the familiar world of the public schools. I consulted head hunters, I toyed with politics.

In the spring term of 1985, I resigned. I gave the governing body the required three terms' notice, which meant that I had a year to find a job, but there was no great rush for my services. Tantalising possibilities appeared and then faded. When the head of a public relations company said "We mustn't be selfish and keep you to ourselves", I got the message. I began to think that I would have to fall back on writing when a Westminster parent came to my rescue.

John Winter was a senior executive of Laura Ashley. Bernard and Laura Ashley wanted to set up a charitable foundation, one of whose aims would be to foster a second chance in education for those who had left school early or without qualifications. Was I interested in being the first director?

It was almost too good to be true. The foundation was already set up and generously funded. I would take over as soon as I left Westminster in March 1986. The croakers and the hostile governors had been outmanoeuvred; I had kept the initiative and found a job.

● *Edited extracts from* Delusions of Grandeur — A Headmaster's Life, 1966-86, *published on March 18 by HarperCollins (£16.99).*



"I knew my enemies and looked forward to outmanoeuvring them": John Rae at Westminster. Right, how the press saw it

PANCAKE ANARCHY

WESTMINSTER pupils were a volatile audience and I approached some public occasions with a degree of nervousness. The Pancake Greaze was one. On Shrove Tuesday, selected pupils fought for a piece of pancake in front of the whole school, the Dean and chapter and distinguished guests. It sounds quaint but it was a brutal occasion with no rules, its origins lost in history. From the point of view of crowd control, the Pancake Greaze was a challenge. The pupils understood that this was the one occasion in the year when they could behave like their 18th-century forebears — as violent performers and bloodthirsty mob. Those fighting for the pancake became a writhing heap on the floor from which boys emerged with broken wrists and dislocated shoulders. The crowd shouted and pressed forward against the thin line of school monitors. The guests were not certain whether to be amused or horrified. Afterwards, the Dean presented a golden guinea to the boy with the largest piece of pancake. The crowd cheered: the walking wounded were led away. The Dean offered a few thoughts to the assembled company. "It was Thomas Hobbes," he began, on one occasion, as the crowd swayed in front of him like a cobra, "who characterized man's life as 'nasty, brutish and short.'"

WESTMINSTER HEAD RELUCTANT ON ASSISTED PUPILS

By MARGOT NORMAN, Education Staff

WESTMINSTER SCHOOL, one of the country's leading public schools, is to join the Government's controversial assisted places scheme even though the Headmaster is an outspoken critic of the scheme.

Dr John Rae claims it creams off bright children from comprehensives and inevitably creates hostility between State and independent schools.

He has denounced the scheme as "ill-conceived" and "incredibly bad."

But the Westminster governors have overridden his objections and a first group of pupils is to join the school in September.

Under the scheme, the Government will help to meet their

Westminster's head seeks new challenge

By Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent

Dr John Rae is resigning as head master of Westminster School to look for a new challenge.

He leaves at his own request next spring, by which time he will have completed 15 years as Westminster's head master. Dr Rae, aged 53, is open to job in the media where he experience of

"I think I have done all I can and must look for a new challenge," he said.

Headmastering is a very secure life. Dr Rae says. He feels he would like to take a risk. "If you don't take a risk you never know what other possibilities might be." Now he says that apart from other sorts of educati

mustn't be selfish and keep you to ourselves", I got the message. I began to think that I would have to fall back on writing when a Westminster parent came to my rescue.

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Scientists in the bedroom

Janet Daley wonders how much exaggeration and fantasy creeps into research about our sexual habits

Large numbers of Americans are now indulging in sexual practices like sado-masochism and group sex which were once thought minority perversions. Or at least, that is what they tell the sex survey interviewers. Why should we assume that they are not replying in the same spirit as opinion poll respondents during the last general election: telling the questioners what they think they want to hear? This thought never seems to cross the mind of the authors of the latest research study, *The Janus Report on Sexual Behaviour* (Wiley), nor do I recall it entering into the calculations of earlier studies.

From Kinsey to Masters and Johnson, sex surveys have seen themselves as presenting raw factual truth, not only about their particular set of subjects but about the larger society. They seem to make no allowance for those who may be economical with the truth or, in this case, extravagant with the half-truth, and they do not ask themselves whether there is anything about the sort of people who are prepared to participate in sex surveys which might make them untypical.

A sex survey is a bit like an opinion poll which is never followed by an election. Its findings cannot be proved either true or false. But somehow this seems never to be seen as a suspicious limitation. Surveys which question people precisely on how much they fantasise do not allow for the possibility that imagination might be creeping in to the findings themselves.

Perhaps this blind spot has something to do with the predilections of sex surveyors themselves. Certainly William Masters, a gynaecologist, and his research assistant, Virginia Johnson, had devoted their careers to helping people enjoy sex and their survey could be seen as part of a crusade to break down inhibitions. The Janus prose is suffused with that sort of evangelical spirit: "If our report generates the interest . . . needed to continue the task we have begun, and if our readers are helped to think about their own sexuality with far less anxiety, our work will have achieved its major goals." The authors, Samuel and Cynthia Janus, (a married couple — he a "board-certified sex counsellor", she a doctor) have discovered (oh, happy day) a surprising amount of anxiety-free sexual deviance. And they may now use this "fact" to promulgate the liberating news across the land: more and more people are cheerfully engaging in activities like group sex, so why not you?

> Have a tiny proportion of voluble non-conformists who choose to answer sex surveys in full given us a false picture of ourselves?

And presumably, the next sex survey carried out will discover an even higher proportion of people prepared to admit that they do these things — or who are not prepared to admit that they don't.

The Januses' project was not carried out under the auspices of any government department. It is a freelance effort which earnestly, if rather vaguely, strains for credibility as a true national survey. They planned their sample, they tell us, to conform to the population distribution of the United States in the areas of "sex, age, region, income, education and marital status". In spite of their best efforts the Januses say, this statistical cross-section of the groups which compose American society may still not meet "the stringent requirements of scientific sampling" but nonetheless, "our findings are likely [to be] generalisable for the country as a whole". What they fail to say is that quite apart from their membership of all of the official categories, their respondents belong to one very specialised group: The Willing To Talk About My Sex Life Party (admittedly a fairly large company in the United States but still a minority).

The Januses go on to explain that they distributed 4,550 questionnaires of which 3,260 were returned. Of those returned, 495 had to be discarded because of major omissions or "improper" completion. Apart from the intriguing question of what counts as impropriety in a sex survey, there is what should be a full-scale alarm signal here: the successfully completed forms, in which fewer than eight questions were unanswered, were handed in by only 2,765 people — around two-thirds of those contacted. Of those willing participants, 22 per cent of men and 17 per cent of women claimed to have had at least one homosexual experience, 14 per cent of the men and 11 per cent of the women had tried sado-masochism.

But what about the third who did not fill in the form? The normal statistical assumption is that had they done so, they would have distributed themselves in pretty much the same proportions as those who did answer. Indeed, that is the basis on which all statistical generalisations are made. But in the case of sex surveys, are we not up against a very different sort of problem? Those who choose to answer (and answer fully, in the kind of detail most useful to the survey) are self-selecting in a sense which could rule them out of court. They are more likely than most people to be either exhibitionistic, confessional, dedicatedly liberationist about sex, or outright fantasists. At the very least, they are almost certainly uninhibited in their thoughts on the subject. And they are likely to be those who think their sex lives worth talking about.

One particularly stunning example of the failure to see this connection is the Januses delighted conclusion that there is an unexpected amount of sexual activity among the over-65s. People in their sixties and seventies (whom the authors describe as "post mature", as if maturity was something one grew out of), report levels of sexual activity only slightly lower than those in their thirties and forties. But wouldn't the 70-year-olds most inclined to reply to their survey be those who still had something to report?

What is most alarming is the thought of the influence which this self-selected minority of swingers have had on the rest of society. There are many who believe that the seeds of the Sixties sexual revolution were sown by the Kinsey Report of the Fifties which made it seem as if almost everybody was engaging in pre-marital and variegated sex. What if the whole thing has been a pseudo-scientific fiction in which a tiny proportion of voluble nonconformists have given us a false picture of ourselves?

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Is breast screening worth the worry?

Aileen Ballantyne on new doubts about the wisdom of X-raying women under 50 for breast cancer

Leading British breast cancer specialists are to meet in private this month to review the future of one of the world's largest and most controversial medical trials. The £4 million ten-year trial, being funded by the British government and British cancer research charities, is aimed at weighing the value of potentially life-saving benefits of breast cancer screening for younger women against the harm such screening causes in terms of increased anxiety and unnecessary investigative surgery.

The move, which may lead to the abandonment of the recently started British trial, involving 200,000 healthy women aged 40 to 50, follows a specially convened workshop of international cancer specialists in Bethesda, Washington last month, sponsored by the US National Cancer Institute (NCI). They concluded that new analyses of several studies from around the world, involving about 500,000 women, have failed to show that women under 50 benefit from mammogram X-rays.

The workshop, whose full conclusions will be published on Thursday, found that in studies which followed women in their forties for five to seven years there was no reduction in deaths from breast cancer among those who were screened compared with unscreened women of the same age. Even when the same exercise was carried out for ten to 12 years, they found that the reduction in deaths in the screened groups were "uncertain, and at best marginal".

The findings, which are being reported to President Clinton's special commission on cancer this month, mean that many American women in their forties, told by cancer specialists for the last decade that they should pay for a regular mammogram in order to prevent death from breast cancer, are now seriously questioning that advice.

According to some of Britain's cancer specialists, the estimated 10,000 women in their forties now paying for private screening for breast cancer every year should also think seriously about its possible ill-effects before they proceed, as the harm may outweigh the proven benefits.

Professor Michael Baum, who chairs the therapeutic breast cancer trials section of the government's main cancer research advisory group, the UK Co-ordinating Committee on Cancer Research (UKCCR), says that on the basis of the available evidence, offering such tests to women under 50 in the private sector is a "questionable practice".

He emphasises that in this age group women have as much chance of being harmed as helped by screening because there is a high possibility of borderline diagnoses. "I see many women for a second opinion where the mammogram is equivocal and the radiologists cannot make up their minds whether to do something or not," he says. "She is told to return for another mammogram in six months, and for that six months the woman lives in fear."

For women under 50, who are not at present offered screening on the NHS in Britain unless recruited for the current trial, the chances of such borderline diagnoses appear to be considerably higher than for older women. One reason for this is that the breasts of pre-menopausal women are far less translucent, giving a cloudy, harder-to-read image on a mammogram. There is also a far higher chance that, even after she proceeds to a biopsy under general anaesthetic, a lump will turn out to be harmless.

Although there is also a risk of unnecessary investigations for women over 50, cancer specialists can say with confidence that such risks are likely to be worthwhile: large-scale studies have shown that screening leads to a 25-30 per cent reduction in deaths from cancer. But for younger women there is no such proof.

In the absence of any proven reduction in death rates, all a woman may be gaining from having her cancer found early, according to Professor Baum, professor of surgery at the Royal Marsden Hospital, London, is more "cancer knowledge" years. "This means she may have to live longer with the 'cancer' label for no proven benefit," he says. It may also make it difficult for a woman to get life insurance.

Mr Ian Fentiman, consultant surgeon and deputy director of the Imperial Cancer Research Fund's clinical oncology unit at Guy's Hospital, estimates that for women under 50, the chances of having a cancer picked up by screening is only about one in 1,000. Against this, there is about a one in 10 chance of being recalled for further anxiety-inducing investigations, for a lump or cyst which will usually be benign.

For about one in 200 women, these investigations lead to a biopsy: the surgical removal of a small part of tissue from the lump. In woman over 50, who reach this stage of investigation, only about three out of ten such lumps are harmless, with the remaining seven being cancerous. But for women under 50 who reach this stage, three out of four lumps are benign. Mr Fentiman concludes that private screening for women under 50 is just "putting money in people's pockets".

But Dr Pat Last, consultant in women's health at Bupa and an observer on the government's advisory committee on breast cancer screening, says that the decision to have a mammogram or not is entirely a matter of personal choice. "We still don't know enough about how cancer develops, but we still believe that the earlier you can pick it up the better." Every year, in England and Wales alone, there are more than 3,300 new cases of breast cancer in women aged 40 to 50, she said. Of these, 1,891 occurred in the 45-49 age group, only slightly fewer than the 2,050 which occur in the 50-54 group. "There is very little difference between the two groups, so why screen one and not the other?" she asked.

Professor Howard Cuckle, a leading epidemiologist, who chairs the working party on the under-fifties breast cancer screening trial, says similar charges were levelled at breast cancer screening for the over fifties until the benefits could be proven. Despite evidence from other trials, he argues the need to carry out the British one because, unlike the others, it is specifically designed to find out whether there is an improved survival rate for women in their forties or not.

"The death of a woman in her forties from cancer is an enormous tragedy. If there is any way we can avoid these deaths we have to pursue it. If we don't continue with this trial we will never find the answer," he said.

About 50,000 women in Britain are already on the trial, which offers screening to one third, with the other two thirds as a non-screened control group. The future of the trial will be decided within the next six months, following the recommendations of the advisory group. But Professor Baum believes that if women weigh up all the facts, not enough will volunteer for the trial for it to go ahead.



Detail from *La Madeleine* by Titian. The anxiety X-rays can cause in younger women may outweigh the benefits

By the pricking of my thumbs

Are doctors and nurses likely to give you Aids, asks **Thomas Stuttaford**

In the past a patient suffering from a frozen shoulder may have been reluctant to go the doctor's surgery and risk catching 'flu in the waiting room. Now he may fear that the doctor rather than his coughing neighbour in the queue is the peril and that he might pick up HIV or hepatitis B or C. But these are blood-borne diseases and unless the patient has had invasive procedures and the doctor was bleeding, there is no risk at all of any of these infections being spread during a consultation.

The danger from an invasive procedure is that the doctor might have cut or pricked himself with a needle or scalpel through his gloves, and blood could then have seeped into the patient's wound. Hepatitis B, (and probably hepatitis C) are highly infectious and have been spread in this way. HIV is not easily transmitted and there is no known case in which it has been spread by a surgeon.

Patients of the doctors and nursing staff who have died of Aids must be wondering what the term "invasive procedure" actually means. The answer is that any surgical procedure is invasive. If there is cutting or stitching and sharp instruments have been involved, there is a risk of contamination from the doctor's blood. Nor does the speciality matter: general surgery, midwifery, gynaecology and orthopaedics all involve the use of cutting instruments and invasive procedures. The Kent midwife, who was HIV positive, must have carried out episiotomies, and stitched up the cuts in torn muscles. The casualty officers who have been HIV positive are likely to have carried out minor surgical procedures.

If an infected doctor stitched a superficial skin wound, such as a cut on the hand from a kitchen knife, or a bite from the rottweiler next door, would this be invasive? It does not sound so but, however simple a procedure, it is invasive because the skin surface, or mucus membrane, has been breached. If any of the doctor's blood from a nick from a needle or scalpel dripped into the wound, infection could theoretically occur. It is a most unlikely scenario for HIV, but just possible enough to give rise to "a negligible risk". Infection does, however, occur as a result of surgery by doctors who have been carrying hepatitis B and many cases are on record.

In the operating theatre injuries to the doctors with needles are common. A former president of the Royal College of Surgeons told *The Times* at the start of the HIV epidemic a few years ago that only rarely did he operate without pricking himself. This surgeon was at the top of his profession; a really ham-fisted houseman can prick his finger just putting up a drip.

Dental surgery is invasive. Dentists use drills, needles and scalpels and they, like doctors, should always wear gloves. Although some X-ray and investigative procedures are thought of, and referred to, as invasive they are not invasive in terms of the spread of HIV. Patients who have undergone normal physical examinations, even of an intimate nature such as rectal or vaginal examinations, need have no worries at all; they are not even liable to "a negligible risk". The cystoscopy, sigmoidoscopy, colonoscopy and indeed the use of any other *endoscope will not spread HIV. The instruments are now rigorously sterilised and the procedures carry no risk of infection.*

Until the 1960s, general practitioners did their own minor surgery but since then they have tended to wield the prescription pen rather than the cutting scalpel. Now, in Virginia Bottomley's reformed NHS, GPsare again performing surgery and are having to relearn old skills. This may make it difficult for an HIV infected doctor to continue in general practice, as well as in the surgical specialities in hospital.

The doctor who listens to and taps your chest, peers down your throat and looks into your ears or who takes your smear or feels your prostate will never give you anything more sinister than a cold or 'flu.

Perk up, you're in Russia

Raisa Gorbachev is said by her husband to be very ill. Will she still get the best treatment?

Mikhail Gorbachev was comfortably settled to give one of his regular smug TV interviews on the woes of his old rival Boris Yeltsin last week when the interviewer enquired about the report that his wife Raisa had been admitted to the Archangeloysk Hospital, outside Moscow, with hypertension and a second mild stroke. "The VIP hospital that is," added the unsparing interviewer.

The former Soviet leader was taken aback. "How did you know?" he stuttered and then mumbled about Raisa needing special treatment for a complex condition. Lots of Russians need special treatment for complex conditions but now, as before, the rich and the *nomenklatura* have the only reliable chance of getting it.

The sight of a former president being quizzed about his wife's preferential medical treatment in a society where privilege was ingrained but never openly acknowledged would have been impossible two years ago. Raisa's mistake was to wear her privilege on her Yves St Laurent sleeve. In her open espousal of good living, foreign travel and pleasure, she took glasnost to its logical conclusion. But for women whose lives consisted of holding down a job, doing all the housework and spending some eight hours a week standing in queues this was one openness too far and they have never forgiven her.

The collapse of communism has relegated the Gorbachevs to the status of ill-loved has-beens but despite the resentment heaped on the old elite their privileges remain largely intact. The ritual stripping of perks which followed the revolution of 1989 in Eastern Europe has not taken place in Russia. The Writers' Union, literary lapdog of the regime, still has its luxury dachas; the Congress of People's Deputies would not consider sitting through Yeltsin-bashing sessions without three long breaks in the subsidised cafeterias dispensing rare delicacies.

Government officials and their families still have free access to the Kremlovka Hospital in Moscow with its plush red carpets, leather sofas and Western medical equipment. The status of its old customers is uncertain. The conservative parliament never got round to passing the promised legislation cutting health care and other privileges: it was too busy attempting to pass new laws guaranteeing deputies the right to buy government housing at absurdly low prices, until a newspaper campaign forced it to desist.

The Kremlovka, whose electric gates and high walls betray it as the medical fortress in which Brezhnev, Andropov and Chernenko were kept alive in their dotage, now takes paying patients so the seats of government Volgas have been replaced by the businessmen's BMWs. "We treat anyone who has the money to pay," says Dr Vladimir Sibirsky, head of intensive care who once tended to the Politburo's ailments — they were deemed worthy of that department no matter how trivial their complaints.

"Obviously we do have our old patients but on a different basis," he says. He refuses to disclose what they pay or whether they have preferential access. "But if Mikhail Sergeyevich and Raisa Maximova turn up there is no question that they would be treated very politely."



Raisa: privilege

Private health care is widespread in Russia these days, with hospitals operating unregulated market mechanisms. It is left to heads of departments what price they demand but the going rate in a decent clinic for a drug-assisted birth is 15,000 roubles (£25), two months' average salary. A bed costs 650 roubles (£1), but is usually only available for a much larger bribe. Poor and elderly Russians who cannot afford these prices are left to rely on the unenthusiastically named "basic hospitals" where the waiting lists are lengthy, conditions often unhygienic and treatment a random affair.

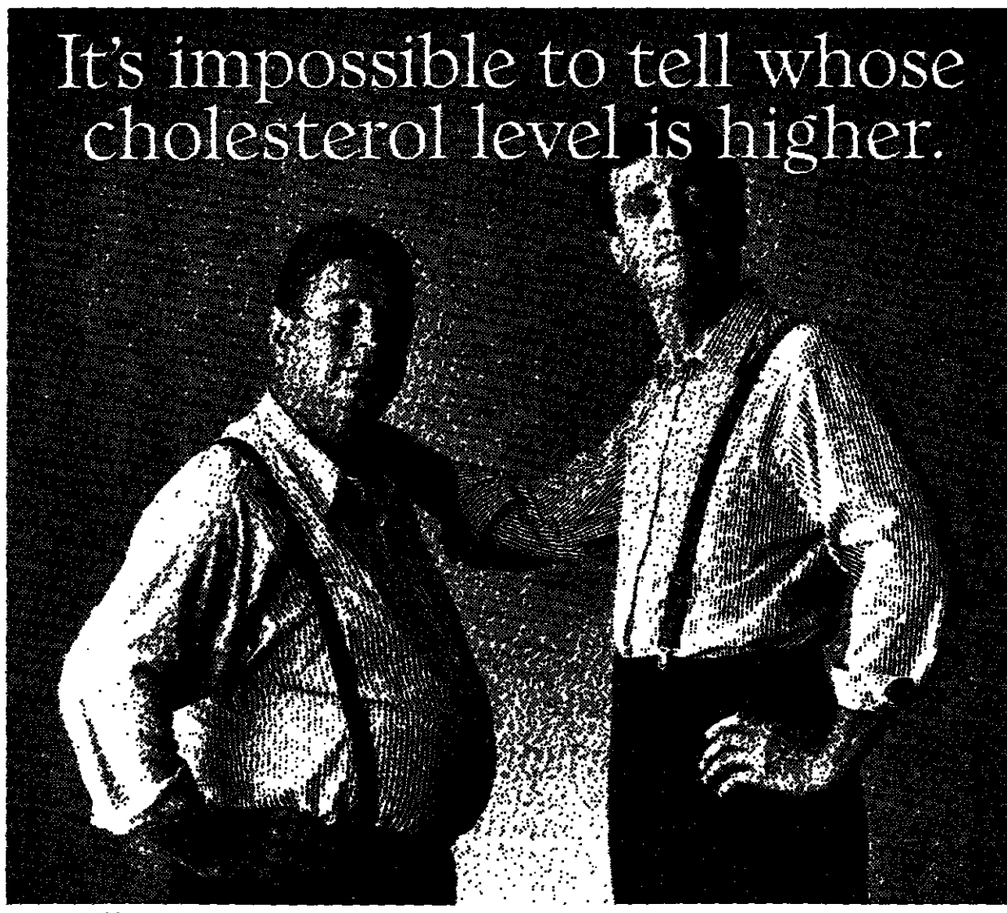
The grandmother of one acquaintance died recently on a stretcher in the corridor of a Moscow hospital after a massive dose of the wrong drug. "They didn't even apologise," said her granddaughter. There is no system for complaints or legal redress in such circumstances.

Svetaslav Fyodorov, the eye surgeon renowned for his pioneering microtechnique, defends the principle of paying for medicine. "In a society as undeveloped as this, free services meant bad services. We need a market in the health service and elsewhere to introduce the idea of quality and responsibility." He charges 10,000 roubles (£16.50) for a basic operation but treats impoverished patients for nothing.

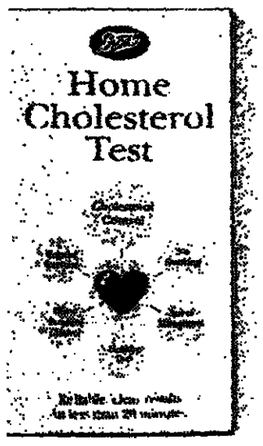
The runt Communist party bemoans the end of free Soviet health care but like most of the regime's boasts, it was always hollow. Doctors were (and still are) badly paid and made up their salaries by taking bribes and gifts from patients in return for quicker treatment. "The only difference," says Mr Fyodorov, "is that now we issue a bill and it's legal."

In spite of the changes few Westerners with a complaint of any seriousness would entrust themselves to even the best of Russian hospitals. I risked the Kremlovka and its bill of over £100 for an X-ray of my left ankle. The Röntgen machine to my great relief was German, the staff neat and the formalities by local standards extraordinarily smooth. There was a long and careful consultation with a sports doctor who seemed familiar with my particular complaint. Then I was ushered into the radiography room and positioned the wrong way up on the table. "Right hand, wasn't it?" said the nurse cheerfully. I booked a flight back to London the same afternoon.

ANNE McELVOY



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It only takes 20 minutes, it's easy to use and importantly it's the most accurate home cholesterol test you can buy.

Boots

Lynne Truss



■ Journalistic prurience and envy have kept the John Birt story running for so long

I have a very simple theory about why the John Birt story refuses to lie down. The answer is that journalists are utterly transfixed by it. Yes, Mr Birt's enemies are out to get him. Yes, Marmaduke Hussey's many detractors are making glorious hay while the sun shines. But quite honestly, if you wave a story about allowable expenses under the nose of anyone in the media world — especially an intriguingly itemised list for "*entertainment*", "*wardrobe*" and "*secretarial assistant*" — it has the effect of strange hypnotic music, entrancing them until they can think of little else.

Personally, I keep lapsing into a reverie about it, and then jerking back to consciousness with a strange cry of "Can I have a receipt please?". I doodle on my sales invoice duplicate book and stare into space. I want to know whether Mr Birt also claims "entertainment" against a big BBC expense account. I want to know why the corporation didn't notice it was paying him VAT.

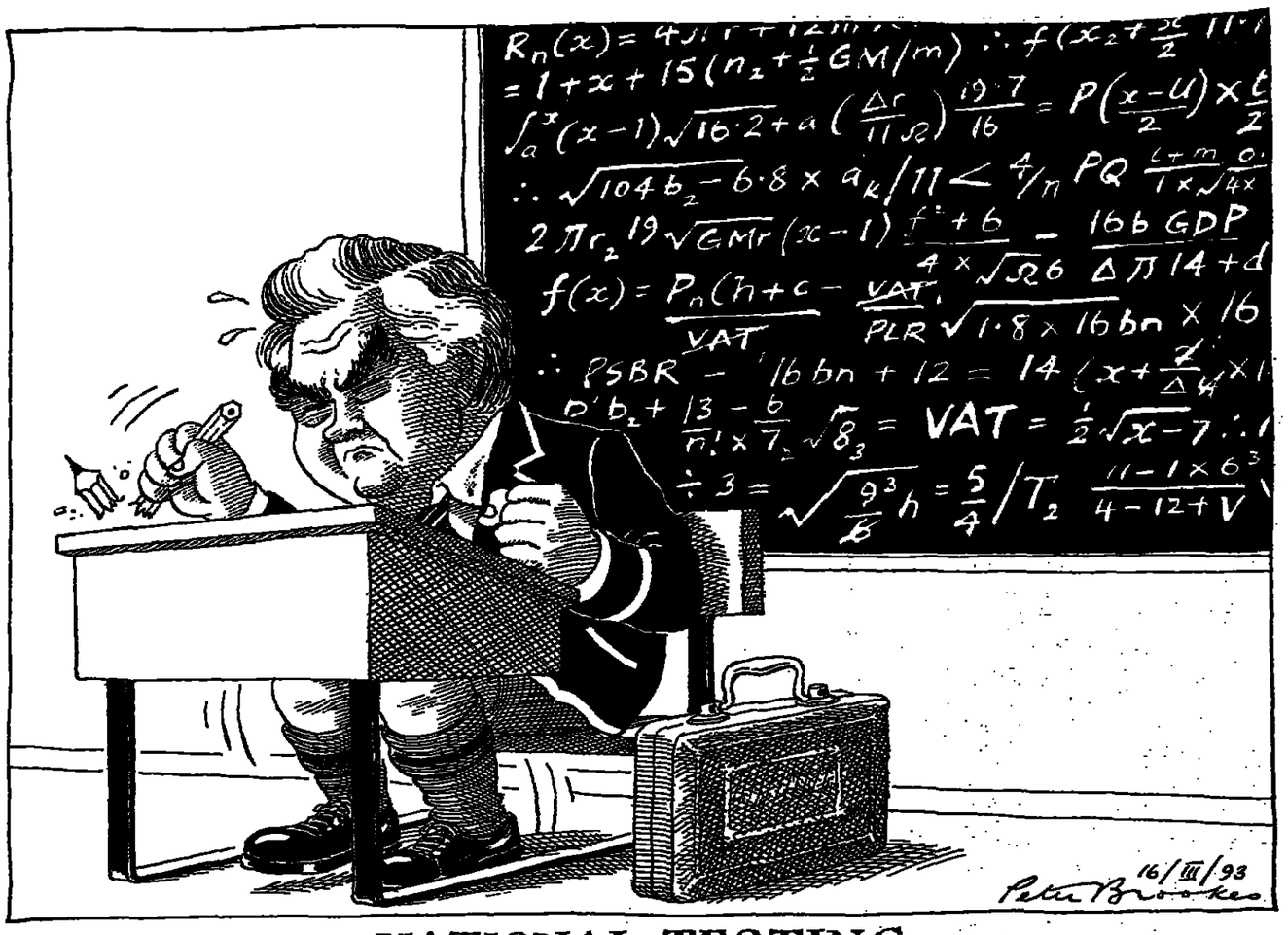
Allowable expenses are at the heart of the journalist's existence. The line between the business expense and the personal outgoing is fuzzy, wiggly and continually redrawn according to circumstance. "You could claim for those cats, you know," a professional colleague told me recently, to my surprise. "Cat food, vet's bills, the odd cat-nip toy with a bell on it. After all, let's face it, the cats are your primary raw material, you write about nothing else." Naturally I resented this slur, but I made a mental note to ring my accountant nevertheless, just in case a tax deductible cat was really a feasible proposition. I pictured the "feline maintenance" column in my big red Cathedral Analysis Book (is there VAT on cat-nip toys? or only on the little bells?) and reflected that I have wised up considerably since going freelance. I remember an innocent time when I thought bookkeeping was something to do with racetracks, and that double-entry meant having a porch at the front of your house.

What makes the John Birt story even more fascinating to Fleet Street journalists, of course, is that many of them have either worked at the BBC, or have heard ghastly stories about grown-up reporters claiming £2.36 for an evening meal. That Mr Birt, coming from commercial television, does not fit into the famous "BBC ethos" is no surprise, since it is all about paying people less than they are worth, and then depressing them further by implying that parsimony is its own reward. That ethos is about making office stationery so difficult to obtain that in the end you spend your own paltry net income on pots of glue. And it is also about confusing economy with meanness.

I know a woman who worked 39 loyal years in the BBC before being transferred to a satellite company. A bit upset about this unexpected discontinuity, she wrote to her personnel officer to ask whether her 40 years would still be recognised, and was deeply hurt to receive a letter saying yes, the BBC did award a gift *at its own discretion* to the attainer of 40 years' service, usually a TV worth £400. However, having considered her situation in all its many aspects, the BBC had decided that in a year's time it might award her a TV worth precisely £390 — though naturally it would go against the BBC ethos if she banked on it.

Sadly it turned out that I couldn't claim *for the cats — not even under "entertainment"*. Well, easy come, easy go. Studying Mr Birt's 1991 expenses, however, I do spot a mysterious item called "depreciation" valued at £300, and wonder whether it is an allowance worth pursuing. Hard to put a figure on one's professional wear and tear, yet if he can do it, so can I. Perhaps you just calculate the number of brain cells destroyed by the aging process and then convert the answer into sterling. I don't dare telephone the accountant again, of course, in case he tells me it means something else.

As it is, I can ponder the mystery of why Mr Birt claimed such a small sum for depreciation in 1990 and 1991, when the BBC ethos is obviously all about depreciating people (even people who have served it for 39 years). And I can also consider the pleasant irony that, should Mr Birt really get the boot on Thursday, he will be able to claim it on his expenses.



NATIONAL TESTING

Dead dogma still barking

Marxism's will-o'-the-wisp has not only led many bright people astray, it has wasted their lives in solemn self-delusions

Bernard Levin

Not long ago, I had business in Boston; following my lifelong rule to read the newspapers wherever I am, I fell upon the *Boston Globe*, and was instantly rewarded by a story so hilarious and yet so touching, so absurd and yet so mournful, so untruthful and yet so pitiable, that I could not decide whether to laugh or weep, and finally settled for Shakespeare's suggestion, and read it *again* "with one auspicious and one dropping eye".

For the story was an account of a three-day conference that had just taken place on the hospitable campus of the University of Massachusetts, and its subject was, if you please, Marxism. What is more, no fewer than 500 "Marxist scholars and activists" had signed on for the whole course, so that counting short-term visitors the total score was 1,000. (Mind you, some must have come to catch a glimpse of a brontosaurus, of which it is said that if a rival beast bit the bronto's tail off, its thought processes were so slow that it would not know that it had lost its tail for a full half-hour.)

Appalling symbolism! For nothing has changed, not even the I-speak-your-weight language: hear Bertell Ollman, a professor of politics (well, it sure as hell couldn't be of English) at New York University.

> *It's definitely a down moment . . . people have taken the wrong lessons from the collapse of the so-called socialist systems, and that's propagated by the capitalist-owned media . . .*

Professor Ollman, I should say, was banging a drum for his latest book, with the racy, risky, rollicking title of *Dialectical Investigations*. Nor did that exhaust the fund of witty nomenclature being bandied about: Professor Stephen Cullenberg had chosen a real showstopper with the name of his magazine, *Rethinking Marxism*.

Professor Cullenberg, when the chuckles had died down, emphasised, in his comments on the former Soviet Union, that "We never endorsed that kind of Marxism, and for us, it's a kind of albatross that's been removed from our political and theoretical necks." (But of course; who would have thought otherwise? Indeed, I dreamed last night that there was a moving speech from Professor Cullenberg, recalling the astonishment he felt when he discovered, in 1989, that some — perhaps a good many — of the people sent to re-education camps by Stalin had been treated not at all well; in the dream, this *astonishment was widespread throughout* the entire conference.)

The seminars, of which there were many, offered a varied menu; the one I wish I had supped at was "Archaeology and Marxism"; was that, I wondered, the best time to go digging things up when burying would be much more suitable? Some, I was sorry to see, had begun to doubt altogether the relevance of Marxism. Professor Aroldson, for instance, said (not very coherently, I admit) that "Marxism has travelled around the world and exhausted a number of possibilities; these possibilities have had their historical moment, and I would argue that they are now eclipsed."

Others would not be parted from their teddy-bears; Professor Kellner of Texas, for instance, said, a little wistfully, that "Some of us had hoped in the 1960s that we would be living in a more socialist world right now, but the concept of revolution has some legitimacy." (*The first half of that sentence* doesn't seem to have anything to do with the second half, but if I were to list all the *non sequiturs* to be found at the Boston Marxist get-together we would be here *till Christmas — not that* Marxists recognise Christmas.) Even that was not the best: one fierce lady from Connecticut, Linda Thompson, declared that "either we're going to have a revolution *in this country* or we're going to have fascism". (Neither, Linda dearie, neither. You'll see.) But what draws so many people, including a good few intelligent ones, to something called "*Marxism*"? *More to the point*, what makes them think, when they have been drawn, that it has any connection with the actual world we have to live in?

As I have pointed out before, no one *has ever read Das Kapital* right through, all four volumes. Marx himself didn't do so; he wrote the first volume, then handed the whole thing over to Engels, and washed his hands of *the entire ridiculous caboodle, doing not* a stroke of work ever again, and sponging off Engels to the end of his life. Yet the army of poodle-fakers that the mere word "Marxism" attracts all solemnly debate the blinding illumination that the book gave them.

But suppose someone did read and understand the unreadable and unintelligible thing; what possible connection would or could it have with life at the end of the 20th century? Or any century, come to that: at no time, from the day Engels wrote "The End", has the word "Marxism" had any relevance at all to anyone or anything, not even the poodle-fakers aforementioned.

Then whence the musty magnet that draws them? Some, I am sure, use it to ward off the danger of being *attracted to a real lodestar* — a religion, say — or to fill a general emptiness. To say "I am a nonentity" carries no weight; but to claim that "I am a Marxist" not only sounds powerful but persuades the bystanders that it *is* powerful, and therefore the claimant has power that non-Marxists do not have.

The portrait, too, has considerable force; that huge mound of hair and beard — by no means unattractive — is an image which, once seen, will last long on that inward retina where such apparently meaningful icons are found. (Did you know that he shaved off the entire beard not long before he died? Unfortunately, there is no photograph or portrait of the shorn pseudo-Samson. I wouldn't half laugh if behind that majestic beard there was a weak chin.)

And yet, the professors and other riff-raff who contributed to the Boston *Marxfest* hardly touched upon what is the most extraordinary aspect of the whole absurd chimerical belief. In the 19th century, and the beginning of the 20th, the word Marxism was first used as a theoretical policy, a structure for a different future for the huddled masses ("Workers of the world, unite — you have nothing to lose but your chains!"), but as the century wore on, it was channelled into something utterly different from anything Marx or Marxists could recognise. From the moment that Lenin took total power in Russia, Marxism was abandoned there; and of course, when Stalin succeeded to the *throne the entire remaining remnants* of the musty philosophy were consigned to oblivion for ever.

Yet, as we know — and as very many dead millions of human beings could testify if they could be brought to life — the *word* Marxism was never out of the mouths of the Soviet tyrants and their satraps, together with those who, in free countries, went a-whoring for the entire package.

There was no need for socialism and communism to tag along with the word; both words can stand on their own feet, and both have the advantage of knowing that they are meaningful, which cannot be said of Marxism. Were those who professed socialism or communism just fishing about for something solidly ideological to buttress their watery beliefs? If so, since they could not read the Marxist scripture, they did not know that there was nothing in it, so they *might just as well have gone on calling* themselves socialists or communists.

Yet the solemn, empty, wasted conclave in Boston showed that even those who had wistfully declared Marxism clay-footed were reluctant to admit that they had been chasing, all their lives, a jack o'lantern, which had led them into the swamp of political nonsense from which no traveller returns.

True, it was hard for them to admit this, because it makes clear that the unreturning traveller has wasted his entire life. Who could be comfortable with that news? I can even sympathise with the fierce lady from Connecticut who demanded revolution and threatened fascism if she couldn't have it; at least she is going down with the ship.

But it is not necessary to go to Boston to find parallel absurdities; nor should we point the satirical finger too ostentatiously. Was I really the only person to burst out laughing at one of the greatest oxymorons ever penned? Well, I must be allowed to laugh again. Until 18 months ago, there was in Britain a magazine called, so help me, *Marxism Today*.

Changing China's guard

Hardliners need prosperity too, says

Michael Yahuda

Is it possible that China's leaders disagree about how best to handle the Hong Kong question? According to the Hong Kong leftist press, Deng Xiaoping, the Supreme Leader and the key decision-maker on Hong Kong, is said to have remarked that he has been criticised for having already conceded too much to the British. Yet it has also been suggested that within China there have been fears that the confrontationalist approach towards the governor, Chris Patten, as typified by *Li Peng*, the prime minister, leaves no room for either side to compromise without losing face.

It is necessary to appreciate the depth of distrust that China's oldest leaders harbour towards *Britain over* Hong Kong. These are men, like Deng himself, who came to political maturity in the aftermath of the first world war, and whose experience of the miseries in France from *1920* to *1926 did not* suggest that the rulers of capitalist Europe were imbued with benevolence at home or with altruism in their treatment of Asians abroad.

To this day China's leaders suspect a longstanding British design to abscond with the surplus capital of Hong Kong and to leave the territory in disarray in the hands of an influential pro-British group. Indeed, since the collapse of communism elsewhere, China's leaders have suspected that the British are in league with the Americans to set up Hong Kong as a base to subvert communist rule in their country.

Support for such views is to be found particularly in sections of the military and among economic conservatives. If the leftist Hong Kong press is to be believed, some of the old generals were anxious last December to teach the British a lesson. The economic conservatives have never had a good word to say about Hong Kong. They still seek to uphold the remnants of the old command economy of state-owned enterprises and the state control of grain.

But others favour a less harsh approach to the issue. Two leaders from Guangdong, a province that has become economically integrated with Hong Kong — Ye *Xuanping, a former governor of the* province, and the vice mayor of Shenzhen — have publicly sought to defuse tensions. Others who favour further economic and administrative reforms have privately expressed disquiet about the aggravation of tensions. Last year they received a boost from Deng Xiaoping himself. His southern tour, which he used to overthrow the more cautious conservative approach in favour of an accelerated rate of economic development, was the occasion on which he called for Guangdong to become a new East Asian Industrial Economy. This was an indirect endorsement for Hong Kong. Deng went further: to elevate his economic programmes into a strategy for the political survival of communist rule, he argued that the fundamental reason for the survival of the Communist party in China, unlike its Soviet counterpart, was that it had presided over increasing prosperity.

The Party Congress last year and the National Peoples Congress now are facilitating a change of generations as the elderly Long Marchers and Founding Fathers withdraw from the front stage. *It may be that among these ostensibly* more reformist and modern leaders will be found a more conciliatory approach towards Hong Kong. But it is premature to place much hope in them. Deng *Xiaoping is known* to be the ultimate decision-maker on Hong Kong, and although at the age of 88 he can barely be understood except as mediated by his daughter, he has effectively pre-empted open discussion.

Even at this late stage the Chinese might be prepared to enter into talks about talks, but failing that, *the proposed legislation* could be amended in the legislative council in such a way as to appear to erode Mr Patten's original proposals. While the Chinese will not allow the legislative council to have veto over agreements with Britain and do not like the idea of the council being able to amend agreements with Britain — crafty ways for Britain to have two bites at the cherry — it might be possible for the council to amend British proposals before they are put to the Chinese. If they were to narrow the electorate for the functional constituencies, for example, or to allow membership of the election committee to be wider, the Chinese could take that as a basis for starting proceedings from that point.

But the Chinese decision-making *structure* about Hong Kong is thin and lopsided. The key is the Hong Kong Macao Office headed by Lu Ping. He has ministerial status and is directly accountable to the prime minister — the conservative Li Peng. He is however, effectively divorced from the other ministeries and organisations that deal with Hong Kong.

Hong Kong is crucial to China's continued economic developments and reform. It is in effect China's main port: it accounts for more than 60 per cent of commercial investment in China, and has itself absorbed US$20 billion investment from the mainland. Its potential political constituency in China is vast. But it is one 88-year-old man who counts. And he has to balance his suspicions of the British with his need for Hong Kong as a key to the accelerated economic development which he deems vital to preservation of communist rule.

The author is a reader in international relations at the London School of Economics.

Seen and not heard

FOR one supposedly constrained by Budget purdah, Norman Lamont has been surprisingly visible over the past few weeks. Indeed, so high-profile has the Chancellor been that some commentators have felt that the Treasury's traditional period of silence has effectively been ended.

Nothing, however, is further from the truth. Lamont may have *been out and about*, but to the private relief of his aides, the contents of today's Budget speech have not.

Most conspicuously he gave an on-the-record interview at the weekend to *The Independent on Sunday*, while *The Sunday Times* carried a day-in-the-life feature. Last week Lamont and his ministers staged a photo-call at the Treasury, while last month he chaired a G7 meeting in London, followed by a press conference. *February also saw him hold an* impromptu press conference outside No 11 Downing Street to praise the latest retail sales figures. But despite these opportunities, not a single Budget secret has been let slip from his lips.

Lord Healey, the former Chancellor, thinks purdah, either the traditonal version or the Lamontian variation, is a waste of time. "Complete nonsense," he says. "I always found it very frustrating. You have to talk to all sorts of people such as ministers whose departments are involved. You have to tell the cabinet. You have to take on board what they say. But it does have one advantage. It can be convenient if you don't want to answer questions." The Chancellor not answer questions? Surely not.

● *Even the Queen's banker cannot beat the weather. Yesterday, Coutts & Co chairman Sir David Money-Coutts was due to be at the bank's Strand headquarters, hosting a reception for V.S. Naipaul, winner of the first £30,000 David Cohen British Literature Prize. Money-Coutts, whose bank is administering the prize with the Arts Council, unfortunately picked the worst week this century to holiday on the east coast of America. It ended at the weekend in South Carolina, which suffered the full brunt of the storm. Last night he was still there.*

Prime rates

THERE is a certain disincentive for Norman Lamont to lower interest rates in the Budget: it might not go down terribly well with his boss. John Major fixed his mortgage *at 9.85 per cent for three* years on his brick house on a hill in Huntingdon last October.

As his Chancellor has gone on pursuing the grail of the green shoot, Major's decision has looked more and more questionable. At a conservative estimate, his move to a fixed rate is costing the Major household about £100 per month extra in mortgage repayments.

"With rates now at 7.99 per cent, it looks to have been a pretty silly move," says one analyst. "It doesn't give you much faith in his predictions for the economy."

Gone to pot?

AFTER last week's blistering attack in *The Spectator* on *Country Life*, accusing the marketing men of dragging it downmarket, the rural glossy will take heart from goings-on in Manhattan. *Quest*, the most chintzy of all American property magazines is advocating that marijuana should be legalised.

In her publisher's letter, boldly displayed on the first page of editorial, Heather Cohane says the marijuana plant should be harvested and turned into biomass to "fuel cars and airplanes"; it should be used to help sufferers from Aids and cancer.

Though Cohane is not so convinced her very rich readership in Manhattan will agree, her *commitment is overriding*. "There aren't many joints being passed around at their parties, but it would help keep the drug dealers off the streets and it would have so many beneficial aspects," she says.

But *The Spectator* can rest assured: the endorsement of pot at *Country Life* is a long way off. "I suppose it is an agricultural crop, but I think it might cut across the bows of some of our readers," says Clive Aslet, the editor.



Reporters reported

THE six signatories of yesterday's letter to *The Times* — John Simpson, Polly Toynbee, Robin Oakley, Peter Jay, Martyn Lewis and Peter Sissons — were much in demand yesterday, not least by the BBC. As well as most national newspapers, *Channel 4 news and LBC* requests for interviews came from Radio 4's *Today* programme.

All, however, decided not to comment further than their letter. The thought of being grilled on the BBC was most ridiculous of all, they judged. But had they appeared, they would have revealed how common freelance contracts now are at the BBC. *Six O'Clock News* presenter Peter Sissons, for instance, refers to himself as a "contract artist", and Polly Toynbee, the social affairs editor, is also believed to be on a contract. As for the corporation's new member of staff, the BBC's press office was yesterday busy promising Fleet Street picture desks a photo-opportunity of John Birt arriving for work at Broadcasting House today. Business as usual, they say, but no questions. The director general of the BBC not answer questions? Surely not.

● *Beneath BBC advertisements in yesterday's* Guardian *for a head of the Bulgarian section and a deputy editor of Russian features was an appeal for contract executives. The corporation wants them on a temporary basis "to join a small team responsible for the fee assessment and negotiation of contracts". Catching up with a backlog, perhaps.*

Mirror of politics

WHEN he picked up a prize from the late John Arlott for being the most promising youngster at the journalist training college at Portsmouth, John Williams hoped that one day he might become a political correspondent. But he feared he would never succeed because he did not have a university degree.

"John Arlott told me then not to worry. It did not matter," says Williams. How right he was. Yesterday Williams was appointed political editor of the strife-torn *Daily Mirror*.

Having been political correspondent at the *Evening Standard* for eight years, and prior to that the paper's Labour correspondent for five he is well grounded in politics. As for the vexed question of the *Mirror's* politics, Williams is neither a Tory nor a commited socialist. In other words, suitably flexible.

GREAT DANES

Danish voters will have to speak up for their neighbours too

While British politicians take a break from the Maastricht bill to debate the Budget, in Denmark the battle for the second Maastricht referendum is just beginning. Yesterday the ruling Social Democrats launched their campaign for a yes vote on May 18 as polls showed a further slight move away from the treaty. Opposition to Maastricht is swelling in almost every EC country, but Danish voters are the only ones left with a direct chance to express their views. Since John Major still resists a British referendum despite its clear tactical advantages for him, Britons who oppose the treaty will have to rely on the Danes to provide the only possible extra-parliamentary impetus for the treaty to be rethought.

Because of the opt-outs that Denmark won at the Edinburgh summit in December, a yes vote is more likely than not. But support has ebbed since then from a high of 70 per cent to just 48 per cent last weekend. (The no vote is hovering between 25 and 30 per cent.) Most people expect a narrow victory for the establishment; but so did they last June when the Danish people rebelled against their politicians. More political parties are going to support the yes campaign this time; but that may not help to win public opinion to the cause.

Increasingly the Danes have been looking across the North Sea to Britain for a lead in their debates over Maastricht. British Eurosceptics will head over there *en masse* during the Easter parliamentary recess. They are already becoming familiar figures on Danish television. But Mr Major and his foreign secretary, Douglas Hurd, have also managed, perhaps inadvertently, to give succour to the no campaign.

When Mr Major rashly promised, as he faced defeat in the paving debate last November, that British ratification would await the second Danish referendum, he may have thought he was merely buying time and Commons votes. The promise saved the night for him, but it could prove costlier than he thought. The yes campaign in Denmark is likely to lean heavily on scare tactics, on fears that the Danes will be isolated in Europe if they vote no. But the acknowledgement by Mr Major, and subsequently Mr Hurd, that Britain will not go ahead with ratification if Denmark rejects the treaty has heartened the Danish sceptics. The isolation argument now carries much less weight.

Besides, those Danes who are wary of the treaty need only look to France and Germany to discover how commonplace such views have become. More than half the French now wish they had voted no last September, according to opinion polls. And even the consensus among politicians there is starting to fragment, due perhaps to political pressures in advance of the general election later this month.

Rogue conservatives such as Charles Pasqua and Philippe Seguin question the wisdom of the *franc fort* policy, which ties the French franc to the mark regardless of the consequences of high interest rates on the economy. Even Pierre Lellouche, foreign policy adviser to the leader of the centre-right UDF, Jacques Chirac, admits that the Maastricht treaty was designed for different times. Whoever becomes prime minister, Brussels expects hostility to the EC in France to increase. Meanwhile, the ruling political parties in Germany, all of which support the treaty, have been chastened by the success of anti-Maastricht parties in *Länder* elections.

French and German voters have been, or will be, voting by proxy. The ostensible question put to them is the governance of their own country or region. The Danes by contrast can deliver a clear message, to their own leaders and to those in Brussels. European politicians have overreached themselves. It is time they were chastened; and time for a rethink.

SENSE ABOUT A MODERN PLAGUE

Tests of doctors would be negligible in the war against Aids

Reckless publicity is the oxygen of panic, as the recent string of Aids cases involving health workers has shown. Bolton health authority was yesterday pressured into releasing the name of a general practitioner who died of Aids last summer after failing to reveal his condition to the hospital where he performed minor invasive surgery. The clamour of voices calling for compulsory HIV-testing of medical staff who perform surgery has never been more powerful.

Even in a society that aspires to protect individual liberty, the defence of public health has to be governed by utilitarian values. The state must take the measures necessary to curtail epidemics, whether by quarantine, testing for contamination, or the destruction of infected property.

When the cabinet committee on Aids led by Lord Whitelaw disbanded in 1989, it argued that it had overseen the necessary changes in public policy to contain the disease. But the spread of Aids, especially among those at greatest risk such as drug addicts and homosexuals, has increased the pressure upon the government to assume greater powers in particular circumstances. Advocates of compulsory testing for health workers now argue that the trust of patients must be matched by a greater sense of responsibility among doctors — enforced, if necessary, by law.

The calls for legal enforcement of testing should not be heeded. Mandatory tests might assuage public alarm temporarily, but would be an insignificant weapon in the battle against Aids. Since the test detects antibodies generated by the body to combat the HIV virus rather than the virus itself, an infected person can register negative for up to three months. Not even compulsory quarterly tests for every British health worker involved in invasive surgery — which would cost the taxpayer £30 million a year — could provide patients with cast-iron guarantees.

The risks from such contact are, in any case, minute. In the decade since Aids emerged in the West, there has not been a single confirmed case of a doctor infecting a patient with the virus. In contrast, about 148 health workers around the world are already believed to have contracted HIV from treating infected patients. Faced with compulsory testing, surgeons would have every right to demand that patients also be screened.

District authorities and the health department must now consider the proper limits of confidentiality and how best to reconcile doctors' right to privacy with patients' right to know. In this delicate matter, wanton openness would be as undesirable as absolute secrecy. Mid Glamorgan authority was quite wrong to conceal for five months the fact that one of its junior hospital doctors had died from Aids. But instant disclosure of every case of infection would be counterproductive, deterring doctors from revealing their illness to hospital managers.

Bolton health authority might have set a sensible precedent by contacting the patients who came into contact with the doctor while refusing to publicise his name. Instead, it has bowed to irrational pressure. It is scarcely surprising that the public, urged to ring up "emergency helplines" as if a plane had crashed, have adopted a crisis mentality. Those who manage the nation's health must now restore a sense of perspective.

THE THEATRE OF BUDGETS

Here is the Chancellor's day to enliven the grind of recession

Budget day should have its theatre as well as its politics. Those who know little and care less for other peoples' tax-bands need bread and circuses as well as tricky sums on their once-a-year day for the political economy.

This Chancellor of the Exchequer has been a fine impresario — better in his two previous budgets than as an economist. He has been diligent with his photo-opportunities of bourgeois domesticity for the Sunday papers. On this day when professional snappers in St James's Park outnumber even the Canada geese, Norman Lamont will take the ritual stroll for the benefit of the big lenses. The scaffolding is up opposite Number 11 Downing Street for the broadside of cameras to capture the oddly British image of a man brandishing a battered, brass-handled box 130 years old.

Mr Lamont has even let drop in the right places the information that he will be fortifying his Budget speech with a glass of Highland Park whisky. Drinking while at the despatch box is a departure from parliamentary practice introduced as part of the Budget dramatics. Disraeli favoured brandy. Gladstone drank sherry and whipped egg while presenting his Budget. Most of the human race care fifty times more for a drink than marginal tax rates.

Gladstone, who was largely responsible for inventing the Budget as national accounting day, would have approved of the theatre. He was expert at exploiting the contemporary media, and used Budget day as an opportunity to make a very long speech and create a sense of occasion. According to a witness of one of his Budget speeches, he talked boring shop like a tenth muse.

He might have deplored the brevity of modern Budget speeches, having set the record when he spoke for five hours when he introduced his first Budget in 1853. But modern evening news schedules do not allow time for such grand verbosity; the concision of television sound-bites — "platitudes on a night out" as one senior politician described them recently — makes it otiose. Although dress standards have slipped, members of Parliament will today still be dressed in their brightest livery of ties and frocks because of Gladstone's legacy.

He would have judged that the House is not yet making the best of the television cameras, which seem to have shrunk its size and abbreviated its attention span, and reduced Prime Minister's questions to an exchange of noisy slogans. He would be grieved by the absence of the serious questions that turned Budget day into a national debate. The custom of not intervening in the Chancellor's Budget speech has grown up over the past century without authority from *Erskine May*. So has the modern intervention, a creature like the pelican that is 90 per cent mouth and minimal interrogation expecting an answer.

A political tradition dies today with this last spring Budget. Next December will come a chance to create new traditions, and make longer, Gladstonian sermons, since the new Budget will deal with spending plans as well as the broad annual accounting. But a bit of theatre will still be needed.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

Birt clash puts focus on BBC duty as a public service

From the General Secretary of the National Union of Journalists

Sir, It is a sign of the atmosphere in the BBC that I have been asked to sign this letter on behalf of many journalists in the corporation who fear to add their own names. Individuals who publicly *dissent from the line* orchestrated by current management have good reason to worry.

Is John Birt a good leader for the BBC? His clumsy response to criticism of his tax avoidance scheme demonstrates he is not.

The journalists and other staff are not resisting change for the sake of it. They have embraced new technology, accepted staff reductions and new shift patterns, co-operated with changed employment conditions and welcomed greater flexibility.

Most accept that the result of "Birtism" in news and current affairs has for the most part been a *more* robust and serious journalism. John Birt has been good for BBC journalism, but his further plans threaten the BBC as a whole, and will certainly damage the service it provides.

He has abandoned competition and replaced the choice of listeners and viewers by the judgment of bureaucrats in assessing success or failure. He expects and even plans for a sharp reduction in the BBC's audience share, before satellite television has shown any sign of real penetration. He orders producers and controllers to concentrate on programmes not offered by commercial broadcasters.

The BBC must continue to provide the very best of programmes across the whole range demanded by the public, and let the audience choose what to watch and listen to. If it becomes only a monopoly supplier of minority programmes, Mr Birt will have presided over the deliberate and pointless reduction of an enormous asset.

Contrary to the views expressed by Mr Birt's board of management (letter, March 15) there are others of standing and talent who could easily fill the space he occupies. That applies, even more, to the BBC chairman, Mr Hussey.

Only when these two go can the BBC, from the governors down, join in a real and open debate about the protection and improvement of Britain's incomparable public-service radio and television.

Yours sincerely,
JOHN C. FOSTER,
General Secretary,
National Union of Journalists,
Acorn House,
314-320 Gray's Inn Road, WC1.
March 15.

From Mr Robert Kee

Sir, I am surprised that journalists as reputable as the six who have written to you (letter, March 15) in support of John Birt should have made the mistake of saying that he "speedily *corrected*" *his error of judgment.* It took him over five years and he did so apparently only when he had been found out.

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT KEE,
82 Camberwell Grove, SE5.

From Sir Peregrine Worsthorne

Sir, On the essentials, Mr John Birt *has a sounder idea of public-service* broadcasting than many of his predecessors, particularly Hugh Carleton Greene. By sounder, I mean better attuned to the BBC's responsibilities for promoting the public weal.

On tax arrangements his judgment may have been faulty. But it has not been faulty on more important matters, such as how the BBC should report the great national issues of the day. Whereas on these issues the BBC, even five years ago, was in danger of losing the conservative-minded majority's confidence, that danger has now passed, and this is in no small *part due to Mr Birt.*

Inevitably this has meant him making enemies of all Greene's disciples who believe that the BBC should remain part of the adversarial culture. But their enmity, now being demonstrated so implacably, is the clearest of all possible evidences that he is doing a good job.

In any case, were his tax arrangements all that reprehensible? By comparison with the tax dodges we read about for most top executives, they sound to me quite remarkably modest. Much more important is the exemplary nature of his private life as a model family man.

Yours sincerely,
PEREGRINE WORSTHORNE,
The Old Rectory,
Hedgerley, Buckinghamshire.

From Lady Howe of Aberavon and others

Sir, John Birt made an error of *judgment, which he has recognised* and remedied. It would be a tragedy for the BBC and for us all if this brought about his resignation. He is an experienced, dedicated and outstanding *broadcaster and the BBC* needs him to implement the changes required if it is to survive and prosper. We hope he stays.

Yours faithfully,
ELSPETH HOWE,
MARGARET JAY,
ANN MALLALIEU,
PETER MANDELSON,
GRAHAM MATHER,
AUSTIN MITCHELL,
As from: 8 John Adam Street, WC2.

From Mr Denis Meehan

Sir, John Simpson and his colleagues (letter, March 15) may well be right in suggesting that some of those within the BBC who are calling for Mr Birt's *resignation have improper motives.* Licence-payers may be trusted to be more objective.

In my view Mr Birt, by choosing to engage in anti-social financial practices over a number of years while fully employed by the BBC, has shown himself morally unfit to be director-general, however outstanding his intellectual and managerial qualities may be.

Yours faithfully,
DENIS MEEHAN,
238 Upper Richmond Road,
Putney, SW15.
March 15.

From Councillor Selwyn Ward

Sir, If the income from being director-general of the BBC is not the "emoluinent of an office or employment" within tax schedule E, what is?

In addition to my own schedule D and schedule E earnings, I receive as a local councillor a small honorarium which is taxed under PAYE. Even if *my constituents were unconcerned at* the prospect of being represented by Selwyn Ward Political Consultants Ltd., I don't for a moment believe that such a proposal would get past my local tax inspector.

Yours sincerely,
SELWYN WARD,
London Borough of Bromley,
Members' Room,
Bromley Civic Centre,
Stockwell Close, Bromley, Kent.
March 15.

From the President of the Broadcasting, Entertainment, Cinematograph & Theatre Union

Sir, Libby Purves's reflections on her BBC career (Modern Times, March 12) demonstrate that freelance working *has long existed in the broadcast*ing industry, though until John Birt's arrival this was not an option open to directors-general.

However, she was mistaken when she implied that the choice of working freelance is a matter of individual temperament. The sad truth about the audio-visual industry is that production and technical staff are being forced unwillingly into freelance work by the wholesale job losses in permanent workplaces.

When these reluctant, but *bona fide*, freelances are engaged by John Birt's BBC, full income tax is often deducted from their payments. Small wonder that those who shouldn't pay tax, but do, are outraged to discover that he who should, didn't.

Yours faithfully,
TONY LENNON,
President,
Broadcasting, Entertainment, Cinematograph & Theatre Union,
111 Wardour Street, W1.
March 12.

Press controls

From the Editor of the Daily Mail

Sir, I was very sorry to see Donald Trelford (letter, March 12) supporting the call for an ombudsman to replace the Press Complaints Commission — a view which I believe is not shared by other national newspaper editors, as shown by the letter from the editor of the *Daily Express* (March 13).

The notion of an ombudsman, which seems to derive from a wish to tighten up press regulations without going so far as to introduce government controls, *is a compromise which* would be both misguided and unworkable.

An ombudsman, appointed by a committee where the press was in a *minority, would not have the virtues* of self-regulation. He or she would not attract the goodwill and support of the press in the way the PCC does.

It is suggested that an ombudsman would have the power to fine newspapers but is it really desirable for an appointed individual to be able, without reference to others, to impose financial punishments with no right of appeal? Britain already has draconian libel laws. Do we really need a further range of arbitrary fines, some of which would provoke charges of political bias?

The problem for the press is the growing myth — encouraged by politicians whose susceptibilities have been bruised by newspapers — that self-regulation has failed. In fact there is little evidence for this.

The PCC code of practice is respected and there have been only occasional lapses. In 1992, the commission received *52 complaints* against the *Daily Mail*. In half the cases there had been no prima facie breach of the code. Five were resolved by agreement and only one had to go *to adjudication (when the complaint* was rejected).

Special pleading is invidious, but I believe that such statistics reflect a growing awareness of our responsibilities. Since the advent of the PCC, newspapers' standards of accuracy have improved, corrections have been published more promptly and the debate over ethical conduct has intensified.

There is, of course, room for further reforms. The press supports the appointment of more lay members to the PCC. Legislation is needed to provide protection from electronic bugging.

It cannot, however, be stressed too often that self-regulation is the only discipline that really works. It is effective because it operates through consent. It is human nature to co-operate with something of one's own devising but to try to circumvent that *which is imposed from outside.*

To create an ombudsman would be to make a half-way house between self-regulation and the law of the land. At best it would breed confusion and ill-will. At worst, it would create an arbitrary and illiberal power.

Yours faithfully,
PAUL DACRE,
Editor, *Daily Mail*,
Northcliffe House,
2 Derry Street, Kensington, W8.

Space telescope

From the Editor of Space

Sir, In your editorial, "Eye on Creation" (March 11), you say that the story of the Hubble space telescope "has so far been one of tantalising disappointment".

This is largely wrong. Although the telescope cannot see the far distant object, in astronomical terms, it is doing extremely good science at a lesser distance.

There was an initial disappointment when the mirror aberration was discovered, but very quickly computer scientists began to develop techniques for restoring images to virtually complete clarity. Only images of the faintest objects remain significantly impacted.

With several successful on-orbit servicing missions behind Nasa, the Hubble servicing mission could hardly be described as "if not impossible, at least high risk". Servicing Hubble was planned from the start, before the mirror defect became *apparent.*

There is, of course, some risk. With the telescope working so close to its original expectations it is perhaps worth asking if it is best left alone?

Yours sincerely,
IAN PARKER, Editor,
Space, 11 High Street,
Burnham, Buckinghamshire.

Business letters, page 27

Fish 'wars'

From Ms Debra Fox

Sir, The sight on television of British fishermen demonstrating against their French counterparts by overturning crates of fish and scattering the contents (report, March 11) filled me with horror and despair.

I do not seek to question the grounds of their argument, but to remind them of the plight of the starving *millions*: only days ago scenes of the famine and war afflicting the Sudan were brought once again into our living rooms.

Surely protests can be made in a more dignified way.

Yours faithfully,
DEBRA FOX,
Flat 4, 14 Dawson Place, W2.

Sitting and thinking

From Mrs A. R. Trouton

Sir, Why not the word "*strapontin*" *for tip-up seats in taxis (Mr John* Gaze's letter, March 10)? The Collins-Robert French-English dictionary translates it as "jump seat" or "fold-away seat".

And wasn't the "dickey" seat the one that folded out from the back of the car, where the boot now is?

Yours faithfully,
ROSEMARY TROUTON,
196 Ruskin Park House,
Champion Hill, SE5.

MI5 chief's complaint

From Mr Nick Rufford and Mr David Leppard

Sir, Your headline and story, "MI5 chief accuses paper" (March 13), wrongly suggests that it is *The Sunday Times* against which Stella Rimington, director general of MI5, is to make a formal complaint to the data protection registrar over an alleged violation of her private life.

In fact, the registrar has emphasised to us that it is not *The Sunday Times* which is the target of the investigation. His opinion is that *The Sunday Times* "brought properly to public attention" the matter of the easy availability of confidential information held on computer databases. He has said that he would be grateful for the newspaper's co-operation in attempting to plug leaks of such information.

You also wrongly report that the newspaper disclosed details of Mrs Rimington's bank and credit card transactions. Though we had the *information*, it was deliberately not published. As the article stated, the text was cleared by a senior MI5 officer acting on Mrs Rimington's instructions to ensure that the facts it contained did not put Rimington or her family at risk.

Yours faithfully,
NICK RUFFORD,
DAVID LEPPARD,
The Sunday Times,
1 Pennington Street, E1.

Vital importance of pure research

From Professor F. H. C. Crick, OM, FRS, and others

Sir, The government is about t define its policy for science an technology in a white paper. As Nob laureates who have worked in th *Medical Research Council's Lab* oratory of Molecular Biology a Cambridge, we are concerned a suggestions that it should be hived o from the MRC and perhaps priva tised, because any such move woul jeopardise its continued world leade ship in the biomedical field.

The laboratory's persistent succes since its formation 31 years ago owe much to the enlightened policie pursued by the MRC. Most of th great advances that have brought eight Nobel prizes as well as man other awards are the outcome of year of exploring uncharted waters. The have changed the intellectual basis o much of medicine, and some of ther have directly benefited diagnosis an treatment.

However, at the outset the problem that we and others attacked were onl known to be fundamental to biology their relevance to practical medicin was not obvious and their commercia applications looked utopian. Th MRC took a long-term view, ofte investing not so much in the researc projects themselves as in the talents o the scientists concerned, whom the supported throughout the many lea years while the outcome of thei research remained in doubt.

The MRC's long-term view doe not imply security of funding regard less of scientific quality. Like all othe work funded by the MRC, the labora tory's research is reviewed at five yearly intervals by panels of inter national experts in the various fields and continued support is contingen on their reports, thus ensurin accountability to the government an the public, who ultimately pay for it.

Some of the scientific advance made in the laboratory have also created wealth in the form of new products, techniques and instru ments, but these practical application became apparent only after the fun damental scientific problems had been solved and could not have been foreseen. Commercial companies have to look for assured profits within a reasonable time and cannot risk investing in research in fields which are not fully formed and so may tak many years to bear fruit. Moreover the results might bring little direc financial reward even if they benefi medicine.

It is unlikely that the Laboratory o Molecular Biology could maintain it high quality in an environment which required it to seek its main funding from contracts. On the other hand, its continued association with the MRC may pave the way for further advances of great benefit to medicine. Its future now looks as bright as its past, and we hope that it will not be put at risk.

Yours faithfully,
FRANCIS CRICK
(Salk Institute, California),
JOHN KENDREW,
G. KÖHLER (Max Planck Institut für Immunbiologie, Freiburg, Germany),
F. SANGER,
J. D. WATSON (Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, Long Island, New York).
As from: The Old Guildhall,
Linton, Cambridge.
March 8.

Hazards on the slopes

From Mr Andrew J. Enright

Sir, There have been numerous fatalities in the Alps this year brought about primarily by poor snow cover and overcrowded pistes. Given this scenario, it is up to the users of these pistes to conduct themselves in a responsible manner and limit their speed accordingly.

Rather than banning snowboarders from certain pistes or resorts as *Colonel Monty Flash* proposes (letter, March 11), a far more sensible policy would be that adopted by the Swiss resort of Zermatt, whereby piste "policemen" curb excessive speed and reckless skiing with a wide variety of powers, such as confiscation of lift passes or fines.

This ensures a standard policy, rather than apportioning blame to one largely responsible section of the winter sports community.

Yours faithfully,
ANDREW J. ENRIGHT,
6 Carlton Road,
Southampton, Hampshire.

Down the drain?

From Mr Julian Mannering

Sir, Yesterday, I lost my wallet which contained the usual collection of credit cards and cash, in this case French francs as well as two English fivers. I was, however, most fortunate to have it returned to me by a kind soul who found it abandoned in the street.

Upon its retrieval I discovered that the francs had been carefully extracted but the pounds discarded along with the wallet. What further indignities can possibly befall our currency?

Yours faithfully,
JULIAN MANNERING,
13 Abbey Street, Faversham, Kent.
March 5.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 071-782 5046.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
March 15: The Rt Hon Norman Lamont, MP (Chancellor of the Exchequer) had an audience of The Queen this evening.

The Duke of Edinburgh was represented by Mr James Elms at the Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Mr Dan Maskell which was held in All Souls Church, Langham Place, London W1, this afternoon.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
March 15: The Duke of York was represented by Captain Neil Blair, RN, at the Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Mr Dan Maskell which was held in All Souls Church, Langham Place, London W1, this afternoon.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
March 15: The Princess Royal, Patron, Sense, the National Deaf-Blind and Rubella Association, this morning visited the Leigh Centre, Street Road, Glastonbury, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant for Somerset (Colonel Walter Luttrell).

Her Royal Highness, President, Save the Children Fund, later visited the Save the Children Fund Shop, Heighes House, Fore Street, Castle Cary.

The Princess Royal, President, British Knitting and Clothing Export Council, this afternoon visited Frederick Theak Limited, Shudrick Lane, Ilminster.

Her Royal Highness, Patron, the National Association of Citizens' Advice Bureaux, afterwards visited the Sedgemoor Bureau, The Lions, West Quay, Bridgwater.

Mrs William Nunneley was in attendance.

ST JAMES'S PALACE
March 15: The Prince of Wales was represented by Mr Gerald Ward at the Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Mr Dan Maskell which was held in All Souls Church, Langham Place, London W1, this afternoon.

KENSINGTON PALACE
March 15: The Princess of Wales, Patron, Relate, today presented the "Family of the Year Award" at the Inn on the Park, London W1.

Captain Edward Musto, RM, was in attendance.

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE
March 15: The Duke of Kent, President, the All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club and the Duchess of Kent were represented by Air Chief Marshal Sir Brian Burnett at a Thanksgiving Service for the life of Mr Dan Maskell which was held at All Souls Church, Langham Place, London W1 today.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE
March 15: Princess Alexandra was represented by the Lady Mary Mumford at the Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Mr Dan Maskell which was held at All Souls Church, Langham Place, London W1 this afternoon.

Birthdays today

Miss Teresa Berganza, mezzo-soprano, 58; Mr Bernardo Bertolucci, film director, 52; Sir Patrick Dean, diplomat, 84; Lord De Ramsey, 83; the Right Rev Hugo de Waal, Bishop of Thetford, 58; Sir Philip Foreman, mechanical engineer, 70; Air Chief Marshal Sir Christopher Foxley-Norris, 76; Sir Ewart Jones, chemist, 82; Sir Anthony Kenny, president, British Academy, 62; Mr Leo McKern, actor, 73; Miss Georgina Nayler, director, National Heritage Memorial Fund, 34; Miss Kate Nelligan, actress, 42; Mr R.G. Puttick, former chairman, Taylor Woodrow, 77; Miss Bridget Rowe, editor, *The People*, 43; Mr John Watts, racehorse trainer, 51.

Heathfield School, Ascot

Major Scholarships for the VIth Form for September 1993 have been awarded to Emma Clubley for General Academic Studies and to Diana Massey for Art. Awards to Form I entrants in September 1993 are as follows:

Music Scholarship to Sophia Butler-Cowdry, St Monica's School, Poole. Academic Exhibition (major) to Charlotte Sacher, Lady Eden's School, London; Academic Exhibition (minor) to Alexandra Bayston, Eton End PNEU School, Datchet.

Dinners

Armed Forces Parliamentary Scheme

The Armed Forces Parliamentary Scheme held its annual dinner last night at Speaker's House, by permission of the Speaker. Mr Malcolm Rifkind, Secretary of State for Defence, Mr Derek Foster, MP, and Sir Neil Thorne, chairman, were the speakers. Among others present were:

Viscount Cranborne, Lord Cocks, Lord Colnbrook, Sir John Wheeler, MP, Admiral Sir Benjamin Bathurst, Marshal of the RAF Sir Peter Harding, Air Chief Marshal Sir Michael Graydon, Sir Christopher France, Sir Colin Chandler, Sir Ralph Robins, Sir Patrick Hine, Sir Robert Balchin, Major-General Mike Walker, Mr James Cran, MP, Mr Roger Gale, MP, Mr Peter Hardy, MP, Mr Austin Mitchell, MP, Mr Timothy Wood, MP, and Mr Alderman Paul Newall.

Cardiff Business Club

Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant for South Glamorgan, Captain N. Lloyd Edwards, the Deputy Lord Mayor of Cardiff, Councillor D.R. Ormonde, the High Sheriff of South Glamorgan, Mr Alistair Golley, and the Chairman of Cardiff Business Club, Mr Brian K. Thomas, were present at a dinner held by the Club at the Royal Hotel, Cardiff, last night. The Guest Speaker was the Right Hon Lord Mayor of London, Sir Francis McWilliams. Mr Clifford Evans, the President of Wallace Evans Ltd, presided.



Lost in his work: Douglas Goodyer, head gardener, prepares the maze at Hever Castle in Kent before it opens to the public today. The maze, measuring 80ft square, was begun in 1906 by William Waldorf Astor, the 1st Viscount, and contains almost a quarter of a mile of pathways

TONY WHITE

Today's royal engagements

The Queen will hold an investiture at Buckingham Palace at 11.00.

Prince Edward will visit Hertfordshire University to commemorate the achievement of university status and the 40th anniversary of its founding at the Hatfield campus at 2.30; and will launch the Hertfordshire Association for Young People at British Aerospace at Stevenage at 4.00.

The Princess Royal will attend the council meeting and the annual meeting of the Royal Cornwall Agricultural Association at the Royal Cornwall Showground, Wadebridge, at 1.00; and, as Patron of the Gloucestershire Rugby Football Union, will attend the Gloucestershire county senior cup final at Kingsholm at 6.45.

Princess Alice Duchess of Gloucester, as Patron of the East Africa Women's League, will the 50th anniversary meeting at Holy Trinity Church House, Brompton Road, at 2.30.

The Duke of Kent, as trustee, will attend a dinner at the Science Museum at 7.50.

Appointment

Miss Ann Felicity Goddard, QC, to be a Circuit Judge, assigned to the south eastern circuit.

Memorial service

Mr Dan Maskell

The Duke of Edinburgh was represented by Mr James Elms at a service of thanksgiving for the life and work of Mr Dan Maskell held yesterday at All Souls, Langham Place.

The Prince of Wales was represented by Mr Gerald Ward, the Duke of York by Captain Neil Blair, RN, the Duke of Kent, President of the All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club, and the Duchess of Kent, by Air Chief Marshal Sir Brian Burnett and Princess Alexandra by Lady Mary Mumford.

Prebendary Richard Bewes officiated and Mr R.E.H Hadingham read the lesson. Mr John Barrett read "If" by Rudyard Kipling, the Rev William Murphy read from the works of Canon Henry Scott Holland, Mrs Christine Truman Janes read a tribute by Mr Fred Perry and Mrs Robin Charlton, daughter, read "Seaside Golf" by John Betjeman. Mr Cliff Morgan gave an address. Among others present were:

Mrs Maskell (widow), Mr Christopher Charlton, Mrs Dorothy Page, Mr Frank Bagnald, Lieutenant Commander and Mrs Christopher Charlton, Mr Keith Charlton, Mr and Mrs Mark Charlton, Miss Gail Charlton, Russell Charlton, Mr and Mrs Brian Killip, Ross Killip, Miss Heloise Killip.

Mr Marmaduke Hussey (chairman, Board of Governors, BBC) and Lady Susan Hussey with Mr David Hatch (adviser to the director-general), Mr Will Wyatt (managing director, Network Television), Ms Liz Forgan (managing director, Network Radio), Mr Jonathan Martin (head, Sports and Events Group, TV) and Mrs Martin, Mr Philip Gilbert (head, Events, Outside Broadcasts, TV), Mr David Gordon (*Grandstand*), Mr Michael Johnson (head, International Liaison, TV), Mr Mike Lewis (head, Radio Sport), Sir Roger and Lady Cary, Miss Jane Astell and other past and present members of staff.

Lord Graves, Lord Aberdare, Lord Dunboyne, Lord and Lady Kindersley, Deirdre Lady Mountevans, Sir Ian Percival, QC, Mr Timothy Renton, MP, Sir James Harvie-Watt (Queen's Club), Sir Randolph Quirk (London University) and Lady Quirk, Sir Michael Checkland, Sir Paul Fox, Lady Clothier, Lady de Deney.

Mr Chris Gorringe (chief executive, All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club) and Mrs Gorringe with Mr John Curry (chairman) and Mrs Curry, Dr Ian Gregory, Mr Roger Ambrose and other members of the club; Mr Ian King (president, Lawn Tennis Association) and Mrs King with Mr Ron Presley (vice-president) and Mrs Presley, Mr Ian Peacock (chief executive) and Mr John James (secretary); Major F H D S Brancker (chairman, Professional Tennis Association of Great Britain), Mr John Cook (Veterans Lawn Tennis Club of Great Britain).

Mr G M L Blackburne-Kane (president, Association of Honorary Stewards, Wimbledon Lawn Tennis Championships, also representing the Association of Honorary Stewards), Miss Diana Edwards (British Association of Tennis Supporters), Mr David Jude (International Tennis Federation, also representing the president, Tennis Australia), Mr Howard Narraway (Sports Bureau International), Mr J W D Greatrex (Welsh Lawn Tennis Association), Miss M I Park (South of Scotland Tennis Championships).

Mr J J Smith (British Film Institute), Mr Anthony Catterall (Charing Cross Hospital) and Mrs Catterall, Mr Alfred Constant (Guild of Friends of Nelson Hospital), Mr Bill Moss and Mrs Moss (King's Theatre, Glasgow), Commandant Anne Spencer (director, WRNS), Mrs P Crisp (Birmingham branch, Association of WRNS), Professor Henry Thomason (Loughborough University of Technology), Mr Kenneth Crosthwaite (Henderson Crosthwaite), Mr R G Robinson (Central Council of Physical Recreation), Mr Vernon Duker (Palace Hotel, Torquay), Mr Ronald Atkin (*Observer*), Mr Bill Edwards (*The Daily Telegraph*), Mr Martin Delgardo (*Evening Standard*), Mr David Frost (*The Guardian*), Mr Hugh Jamieson (*Daily Mirror*), Mr Steven Howard (*The Sun*).

Mr Jaroslav Drobny, Mr P B Lucas, M Jean Borotra, Mrs William Wharton, Mrs John Barrett, Mr Gerry Janes, Mrs John Lloyd, Mr Frew McMillan, Mr Tony Mottram, Mr H W (Bunny) Austin, Mr Harry Carpenter, Mr Desmond Lynam, Mr and Mrs Peter Dimmock, Mr Max Robertson, Mr Alec Weeks, Mr Gerald Williams, Mr Leonard Miall, Mr Alan Hart, Rear-Admiral Jeremy and Commandant Anthea Larken, Rear-Admiral and Mrs Colin Cooke-Priest.

Mr and Mrs Emlyn Jones, Mrs Patricia Heald, Mr Mike Hann, Mr David Anderton, Mr Kenneth Wagg, Commandant Vonla McBride, Mrs Diana Pinchin, Mr Noel Murphy, Mr Humphrey Truman, Mrs Nell Truman Robinson, Miss Caroline Cooke, Mrs Geoffrey Cass, Mrs Phyllis Burston, Mr and Mrs Stuart Williams, Miss Lesley Cass, Miss Lucy Barker, Miss Polly Barker, Miss Sally Cass, Mr Richard Hall, Mr Nicholas Cass, Mr and Mrs Victor Osborne, Mr Austin Killip, Mrs Molly Killip.

Miss Esme Lewis, Mrs Paul Trepte, Mrs Florence Bramall, Mr David Bramall, Mr and Mrs B Elphick, Mr A Elphick, Mr Jonathan Eccles, Dr Lyall Eccles, Mrs Margaret Lampard, Mrs Helen Quinn, Dr William Parker, Mr William Parker, Mr and Mrs Julius Stafford-Baker, Mr and Mrs John Ward, Mr Stephen Burston, Mr and Mrs L Burston, Mr David Anderton, Mrs David Coleman, Mr Mark Cox, Mr and Mrs David Perry-Aston, Mrs Hilde Rothschild, Mr and Mrs Bill Threlfall and Mrs W Murphy.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Pieter Hooft, painter, Amsterdam, 1581; Caroline Herschel, astronomer, Hanover, Germany, 1750; James Madison, 4th American president 1809-17, Port Conway, Virginia, 1751; Matthew Flinders, navigator, Donington, Lincolnshire, 1774; George Ohm, physicist, Erlanger, Germany, 1787; Rosa Bonheur, animal painter, Bordeaux, 1822; Camilo Branco, novelist, Lisbon, 1825.

DEATHS: Alexander III, King of Scotland 1249-86, Burntisland, Fife, 1286; Giovanni Pergolesi, composer, Pozzuoli, Italy, 1736; Jean Baptiste Rousseau, poet, Brussels, 1741; Robert Surtees, novelist, Brighton, 1864; Aubrey Beardsley, illustrator, Menton, 1898; John James Macleod, physiologist, pioneer of insulin, Nobel laureate 1923, Aberdeen, 1935; Sir Austen Chamberlain, foreign secretary 1924-29, Nobel peace laureate, 1925, London, 1937; Selma Lagerlof, novelist, Nobel laureate 1909, Marbacka, Sweden, 1940; Constantin Brancusi, sculptor, Paris, 1957; William Henry Beveridge, Baron Beveridge, pioneer of social security, Oxford, 1963.

The American Military Academy was established at West Point, 1802.

The Queen opened the new London Bridge, 1973.

Appointments in the Forces

Royal Navy

COMMANDER: M A Barge - Dryad 10.9.93; M A Bowker - MOD Bath 10.9.93; I Edwards - Staff of CINCFleet 1.6.93; K M Martin - MOD London 24.9.93; D J Richardson - NATO 22.6.93; N C F Whales - DRA Haslar 27.8.93; P Woodings - RNSLAM Portsmouth 20.4.93

SURGEON COMMANDER (Dr) P G Edwards - RM Plymouth 21.5.93; M D Hocking - Drake 25.5.93; W R Lock - Nelson 14.9.93

Retirements

ADMIRAL: Sir Michael Livesay KCB - 26.6.93

CAPTAIN: J M Neville-Rolfe - 29.5.93; P F Wason - 27.5.93

COMMANDER: G N I Harvey - 6.6.93; S Smyth - 23.5.93

The Army

MAJOR-GENERALS: S C Grant to be Team Leader Command Structure Review, 15.3.93; R P Craig late RAMC to HQ UKLF.

BRIGADIERS: R W M McAfee to be Director General Army Training in the rank of Major General, 15.3.93, in succession to Major General S C Grant; C J Lewthwaite late RAMC to RAM College.

COLONELS: M W Foster - To be Comd HQ Mil Wks Fce, 16.3.93; P M R Hill - To MOD, 19.3.93; D S Macfarlane - To HQ SDIST, 19.3.93; M Nugent - To HQ UKLF, 17.3.93.

LIEUTENANT-COLONELS: D S C Gamble RAMC - to BMH Hong Kong; D Ghosh RAMC - to Royal Brunei Armed Forces; P B Williams RA - to RMCS, 15.3.93; J J Bethell REME - to MOD, 15.3.93.

Retirements

COLONELS: E S Parry late RAMC.

LIEUTENANT-COLONELS: D J Bench RAMC.

Royal Air Force

GROUP CAPTAIN: M A Clegg - to HQ AAFSouth 15.3.93.

WING COMMANDER: R C Manning - to IHMT 15.3.93; J A Johnston - to HQ STC 15.3.93; H R Corney - to RAF Marham 1.3.93; G M B Page - to RAF St Mawgan 1.3.93; R Marston - to RAF Coltishall 1.3.93; A Turner - to AUS(NATS) London 1.3.93; T J Murray - to SHAPE 3.3.93; J M Leigh - to Warfare Staff Poole 8.3.93.

Forthcoming marriages

Comte Olivier de Rosmorduc and Miss E.C. Fraser

The engagement is announced between Olivier Tanguy Antoine Marie-Ghislain, son of the late Comte and Comtesse Tanguy de Rosmorduc, of 30 Avenue Roge Vandendriessche, 1150 Brussels and Eleanor Clare, daughter of the late Mr Rory Fraser and of Mr Edward Eyre, of The Field House Great Durnford, Salisbury, Wiltshire.

Mr J.J. Kobine and Miss L.M. Tilling

The engagement is announced between Jonathan, son of Mr Tony Kobine, of San Francisco and Mrs Jennifer Kobine, Dundee, and Laura, daughter Mr and Mrs Henry Tilling, Standpretty by Gorebridge.

Meeting

Royal Over-Seas League

Mr J. Neil Clarke, Chairma the British Coal Corporation, the guest speaker at a meetir the Discussion Circle of the I Over-Seas League held last at Over-Seas House, St Jar Mrs Elizabeth Cresswell pres

Reception

HM Government

Sir Hector Monro, Minist Agriculture at the Scottish was host at a reception hel night at Bute House, Edinb for the Salmon Advisory mittee.

PERSONAL COLUMN

TEL: 071 481 4000 FAX: 071 481 9

To whom shall I speak, to whom give warning? Who will hear me? Their ears are blocked; they are incapable of listening; they treat the Lord's word as a reproach. Jeremiah 6:10

BIRTHS

ALLEN - On March 2nd 1993, to Jane (née Ranger) and Neil, a daughter, Rebecca Louise.

ASHTON - On March 13th at Queen Charlotte's Hospital, to Kate (née Freeman) and Charles, a daughter, Isabel Victoria Rose.

BISHOP - On March 8th, in Cambridge, to Christine (née Smart) and Mark, a daughter, a sister for Alexandra and Theodora.

BOURNE - On March 5th, to Harriet (née Pottle) and Robert, a son, Edmund Philip Robert Francis.

CARLSSON - On 6th March 1993, to Richard and Gemma (née Upfill-Brown) of Thyolo, Malawi, a son.

CASEY - On March 11th, at the Wellington Hospital, to Lt. and Mrs Brian Casey, a son, Sean Patrick. Welcome aboard.

CORBETT - On March 6th 1993, to Jane (née Sloane Stanley) and Edward, Felicity Jane, a sister for Genevieve.

GLUCKSTEIN - On March 10th at the Wellington Hospital, to Sarah (née Balcombe) and Mark, a son, Thomas Edwin, a brother for Louise and David.

GRANDE - On March 3rd, to Bridget (née Fisher) and Robert, a son, Christopher James, a brother for Alistair.

HAY - On March 10th, to Rosanna (née Booth) and Andrew, a son, Rory, a brother for Angus.

HORNE - On 5th March, to Margaret and Timothy, a daughter, Elspeth Moira Fraser, a sister for Graeme and Colin.

HUTTON - On 23rd February, to Harriet (nee Meaddav) and Nicholas, a son, Matthew, a brother for Jemima.

KINGHAM - On March 12th 1993, at Epsom, to Stephanie (formerly Adams) and David, a daughter, Alexandra Hilary Campbell, a sister for Vanessa.

KRABBÉ - On March 4th 1993, to Alice (née Grogan) and Christopher, a daughter, Polly Susannagh Elizabeth.

MENZIES - On March 10th, in Charlotte, North Carolina, to Susie and Mark, a daughter, Amelia.

O'KANE - On March 13th 1993, to Evelyn and David, a son, Daniel John.

PENISTON - On March 13th, to Lyana and Douglas, a daughter, Arabella Leighton.

SAUL RADUNSKI and Helen McBride are delighted to announce the birth of our son Milo, born at Melbourne on 2nd March. Mother and child both fine and happy.

SCHADE - On March 10th at The Portland Hospital, to Christian and Holly, a beautiful daughter, Katharine Harrington.

SIMPSON - On March 8th 1993, to Joanna and Richard, a daughter, Matilda Kate Gaylord.

STOBART - On 4th March, to Alice (née Rutherford) and Alexander, a daughter Flora.

BIRTHS

TURNER - On March 13th at The Portland Hospital, to Christina and Steven, a beautiful daughter, Leonie Natasha, a sister for Max and Jessica.

YOUNG - On March 12th, to Andrea (née Browne) and Mark, a son, Fergus (Gus) Scott Antony.

MARRIAGES

BEECE:KING - On Saturday 13th March 1993, at Epping Register Office, Kevin and Frances, of Chingford, London.

DAVIES:COOPE - On Saturday March 13th 1993, at St Mary's Church, Wimbledon, Clive John Howe Davies, younger son of Mr and Mrs Eric Davies to Barbara Mary Coope, third daughter of Mr and Mrs Paul Coope.

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARIES

NORFOLK - Squdrn/Ldr and Mrs C.P. Congratulations on your Golden Wedding Anniversary, love Maurice, Vicki and Toby.

DEATHS

BAKER - Peacefully on March 15th, Dorothy (Bin), wife of the late Arthur, sister of Gwen and mother of Jill.

BENNETT - On 12th March, suddenly in hospital, Major John Ernest Hayward T.D. B.A. F.T.I. F.S.D.C., aged 82. Beloved husband of the late Anna and dear father of Roger and Joanna and much loved grandfather of Emma, Alexandra, Natasha and Michael. Funeral Service in Christ Church, Ballyculter, Strangford, on Thursday 18th March at 11 am. Flowers or donations to XX The Lancashire Fusiliers Benevolent Fund or to Ballyculter Parish Church, care of Charles Rourke, Funeral Director, Scotch Street, Downpatrick, Northern Ireland. (0396) 612452. Omnia Audax.

BIERER - On March 12th, peacefully at home, Vera aged 94 widow of Immanuel. Funeral at Golders Green Crematorium, East Chapel, 1.45pm 19th March. Flowers may be sent to Leverton and Sons, 212 Eversholt Street, NW1 by 12 noon please.

BLYTH - Dr. Francis George Henry, beloved husband and companion of Margaret (Peggy) and very dear father of Margaret and John and their families, peacefully on Friday March 12th 1993 in his 89th year. Funeral at Tickhill Parish Church on Thursday 18th March at 10.30 am. Family flowers only, donations if desired to Save the Children Fund.

BOND - Henry Charles (Peter), on March 11th, suddenly at sea, returning from New Zealand. Beloved husband of Joan and much loved father of Jane and Nick. Memorial Service to be arranged.

BUCKLAND - On March 12th, suddenly in Shirley Oaks Hospital, Croydon, Robin James aged 62 years, dearly loved husband of Pat, much loved father of Julie, Debbie and John, grandfather of Gemma and Cathy. Service at Croydon Crematorium on Thursday March 18th at 4 pm. Flowers or donations if desired for British Heart Foundation may be sent to J.B. Shakespeare Ltd., 67 George Street, Croydon.

CARTER - On 11th March 1993, Anne, widow of Bertram Carter FRIBA peacefully at Burrswood Nursing Home. Much loved and missed. Funeral at 10am on Friday 19th March at Kent and Sussex Crematorium. Family flowers only but donations to RSPB would please her.

CLEMOW (née Woolman) - on Tuesday 9th March, Ruth, aged 90 years. Greatly missed by sons Philip and Christopher and their families. Funeral Service at Worthing Crematorium at 12 noon on Monday 22nd March. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to St Barnabas' Hospice c/o H.D. Tribe, 130 Broadwater Road, Worthing BN14 8HU.

EPPS - On 13th March 1993, Stanley Moorcroft Epps, Priest RN retired, aged 92, husband of the late Joan and dear father of Mary Whetlem, grandfather and great-grandfather. Service at Yeovil Crematorium on Friday March 19th at 2pm. No flowers please, but donations if desired to: The Mission to Seamen, c/o A.J. Wakely & Sons, Funeral Directors, 7 North Street, Beaminster, Dorset, DT6 3DZ.

FISHER - Fr. James Victor, suddenly at home after a day at the races, aged 57. 'All manner of thing shall be well'. Requiem at St Barnabas, Warmley, Bristol, at 12 noon Friday 19th March.

FORD - On Saturday 13th March 1993, peacefully. The Reverend Arthur Edward Ford. Dearly loved father of Peter and Diana and grandfather of Emily. Funeral Service at The Parish Church of the Blessed Mary, Upham, Hants, at 12 noon on 22nd March 1993 followed by private cremation. No flowers please. Donations if desired to St Luke's Hospital for the Clergy, 14 Fitzroy Square, London W1 6AH.

FREE - George William, on March 10th 1993, peacefully at Charing Cross Hospital after much suffering through a long illness. Beloved husband of Paddy and much loved father of Pat and Midge. Greatly missed by his grandchildren James, Mark, John and Fiona, his sons-in-law Tony and Rob and all his dear friends. No funeral as body donated to medical research at his request. Memorial Service to be announced later.

GARDINER - Mrs D.E., on March 13th 1993. Dearly beloved wife of retired Lt. Col. (Tony) W.P. Gardiner M.C. and mother of Princess Muna Al Hussein.

GOAD - Ruth, peacefully on March 2nd in her 91st year, daughter of Basil Goad and sister of the late Eva. Funeral has taken place.

GREY - J. David, 57, of New York City on March 11th, 1993. Co-founder, Jane Austen Society of North America. Editor, Jane Austen Companion, Jane Austen's Beginnings. Survived by a sister, brother-in-law, aunt, five nieces and nephews. In lieu of flowers, contributions to Jane Austen Society of North America, c/o George Brantz, Treas., Briar House 54-A, Elkins Park, PA 19117.

HEALEY - On Wednesday 10th March in Westmalle, Belgium. Barry John aged 62 years, husband of Valerie, father of Mark, Simon, Matthew, Sarah and Ian and grandfather of Charlotte and Laura. Requiescat in pace. Memorial to be held at the Conservative Club, Stratford Road (corner of Petersfield Road), Hallgreen, Birmingham, on Friday 19th March at 4 o'clock. Donations, if desired, to the British Heart Foundation.

HEILBRON - On March 13th, peacefully, after a brief illness, at The Nuffield Hospital, Glasgow, David Granville Heilbron, beloved husband of the late Marjorie, dearest father of Vivien, Lorna, and Lesley, and much loved grandfather of Ella and Madge. A service will be held at Glasgow Crematorium Maryhill today March 16th at 12 noon. No flowers please.

HETHERINGTON - Theo On March 14th 1993, aged 78, peacefully at home. Funeral, 2.30 pm, Saturday March 20th at All Saints, Wardour Castle. Family flowers only. Any donations to West Dorset Macmillan Service.

HILL - Reverend Dudley Joseph, aged 79, formerly of Lythe, Thirsk and Fulford, Yorkshire, peacefully on 11th March. Funeral at 2.15 pm Friday 19th March, Christchurch, Cheltenham.

HINKLEY - Jack, on Tuesday 9th March at Tidcombe Hall Hospice, Tiverton. Beloved husband of Muriel and dearly loved father to Andrew, Jane, Simon and Katrina. Funeral Wednesday 17th March 2.30 pm. Exeter and Devon Crematorium.

HODGES - On 13th March 1993, peacefully at her home on Rodborough Common, Stroud, Glos., Margaret, dearly loved wife of Dick, dearest mother of Jane and Gillian and grandmother to Kate, Polly, William, Emily and Holly. Funeral Service at Holy Trinity Church, Minchinhampton, on Friday 19th March at 2.30 pm followed by interment. Family flowers only, donations if desired may be sent for the Minchinhampton Centre for the Elderly c/o Philip Ford & Son Funeral Directors, Dirleton House, Stroud.

ISRAEL - Ronald Israel J.P., lost his courageous battle on March 14th. No flowers, donations if desired to Cancer Research. Prayers at home, Tuesday to Thursday 8 pm.

JACOBS-CLARKE - Gupi, a five year old hero at home in Tisbury, Wiltshire, on Saturday 13th March 1993. Funeral Salisbury Crematorium on Thursday 18th March at 12 noon. Please see announcement section.

JEFFERIS - Josephine Jane, peacefully at home at Hillfield Castle, beloved wife of the late Robert Stephen and devoted mother of Robin, Stephan, John, Marcia and Michael.

LARKWORTHY - On March 14th 1993, Eric Gordon of Shipton Gorge, Bridport, Dorset, in his 97th year. Father of Peter and John, grandfather of Josephine, Robin and Mary Jane (New Zealand). Private burial followed by service at St Martin's Church, Shipton Gorge, Thursday March 18th at 3 pm. Flowers to Wakeley & Sons, East Street, Bridport, or donations to RNLI if desired.

LEIGH-PEMBERTON - On March 13th in an accident in Zimbabwe, Thomas Robert Arnold aged 30, the loving fourth son of Robin and Rose.

LINTON - Thank God for the life of Karin, née Laurell, wife of Sydney, and for all she did to help others in Sweden, Finland and Britain.

LYTHGOE - Peacefully on March 14th 1993 at his home in Preston, Lancashire, James Philip F.R.C.S., aged 66 years, the dearly beloved husband of Anne, and loving father of James and Alison. Funeral Service at The Parish Church of Christ Church, Fulwood, Preston, on Thursday March 18th at 1.45 pm, followed by private cremation. No flowers by request please. Arrangements: Messrs H. Whalley & Sons, 94 Ripon Street, Preston, Lancashire. tel: (0772) 54936.

McINTOSH - Suddenly, while watching a grandson play rugby on March 13th 1993, Dr. Douglas H. McIntosh, O.B.E. D.Sc. M.A. B.Sc. F.R.S.E. Much loved and loving husband of Connie, caring father of Bruce, Colin, Alastair and Christine and a dear grandad to his six grandchildren. Service at St Philip's Church, Joppa, Edinburgh, on Wednesday March 17th at 11 am. Cremation thereafter private. Family flowers only please.

METCALF - James, 1934-1993, passed away peacefully on Todd Ward of King's College Hospital, London on the 10th March 1993. Beloved husband of Jenny, dear father of Jonathan, Jeremy, James and Elizabeth and grandfather of Victoria. Principal of Tavistock College, Devon. Funeral to be held at Tavistock Parish Church on Friday 19th March at 2.30pm. Family flowers only. Donations to Liver Failure Unit Special Fund, Kings College Hospital c/o S.J.Backwell Funeral Directors, 32a Brook St, Tavistock Devon. Tel: 0822 612034

MINASSIAN - Marina Christine. On 22nd February 1993 passed away after an operation. Beloved wife of John, daughter of George Kurkjian OBE and sister of Laura. Church Service at St Sarkis Church, Iverna Gardens, Kensington W8, on Saturday 20th March at 09.45. Funeral Service at Putney Vale Cemetery at 11.50. Condolences thereafter at Malcolm Drive, Surbiton, Surrey. No flowers, but any donations to "The Marina Minassian Foundation", 3 Buckingham Place, London SW1E 6HR.

NEWMAN - Gegia (née Tartari). On March 12th 1993, beloved mother of Jolie, Marina and Robert, died peacefully after a long illness surrounded by her family and the thoughts and love of her many friends. A Requiem Mass will be held on Thursday 18th March 1993 at St Mary's Church, Cadogan Street, SW3, at 12.15 followed by cremation at Putney Vale Crematorium at 1.45. Friends and family are welcome afterwards in the home of her dear friend Elsa. No flowers please but donations to Bristol Cancer Health Centre, Grove House, Cornwallis Grove, Clifton, Bristol, BS8 4PG.

POLLARD - On March 14th 1993, peacefully at the Exeter Hospice, Anne of Victoria Park Road, Exeter. Beloved wife of Michael John, mother of William, Andrew and Jane, grandmother of Ben and Amy, warm friend and wise counsellor. Funeral Service for all her friends at St David's Church, Exeter, on Friday March 19th at 12 noon, followed by a cremation service attended by immediate family, a buffet lunch will be available after the church service at The Imperial Hotel, Exeter, where the family look forward to seeing all her friends. No flowers please, but donations if wished to The St David's Church Fabric Fund, c/o Mitchell Funeral Services, King William Street, York Road, Exeter, EX4 6PD.

PROUDMAN - On 14th March, peacefully after a long illness borne without complaint, Sati, beloved wife and best friend of Kenneth, much loved mother of Sonia and grandmother of Grace. Funeral Service at Chelsea Old Church, Cheyne Walk, SW3, on 19th March at 1pm, followed by burial at Putney Vale Cemetery at 2.30pm. Family flowers only, but donations if desired to Crossroads, Hammersmith and Fulham Branch, 100 Brook Green, W6 7BD.

RICHARDSON - On 13th March 1993, Air Marshal Sir William Richardson KBE, after a long illness borne with courage and dignity. Beloved husband of Mary, loving father of Mark, Guy and Amanda and dear grandfather of Caroline, Anna, Briony, Emmy, Poppy and Helen. Funeral at St Lawrence Church, Bidborough, on Thursday 18th March at 12 noon. Family flowers only, but donations if desired to COMPAID Trust, Pembury Hospital, Tunbridge Wells.

SAUNDERS - John Frederick C.B.E. formerly of the I.C.S., died peacefully on March 12th after a long illness bravely borne. He will be sadly missed by his children Jane, Anne and Howard and all the rest of his family. Funeral Service at Holy Trinity Church, Minchinhampton, Glos. on Thursday 16th March at 12 noon. Donations if desired for The British Diabetic Association c/o Philip Ford & Son Funeral Directors, Dirleton House, Stroud, Glos. Our thanks to staff at the Cotswold Nursing Home who nursed him so devotedly.

SAVILL - On March 12th, at 43 Middle Road, Lymington, Jolyon Robert Lydall, beloved husband of Victoria (née Onslow) and son of John L.L. and the late Betty Savill. Dearly loved brother of Amanda and Belinda. Service of Thanksgiving at St Nicholas Church, Brockenhurst, at 2.30 pm on Saturday March 20th. Donations please to Cancer Research at The Royal Marsden Hospital, London.

SCOTT - On March 13th 1993, peacefully at home, The Lady Elizabeth Louise Margaret, beloved wife of the late Lt. Col. C.R. Scott and adored mother of Edward and Nigel. The funeral service will be held at St James's Church, Ashley, Gloucestershire, on Friday 19th March at 2.30 pm. Flowers to Coates Florists, Church Street, Tetbury, Gloucestershire.

SHAW - Denis Seymour, Peacefully at home in Hove, on 12th March 1993 aged 84. Beloved husband of Joyce and father of Michael, David, Patricia and Kay. Funeral, Friday 19th March 11.00 a.m at The Downs Crematorium, Brighton. No flowers by request, if desired a donation may be made to a fund for the benefit of the patients of Dr Burt and Partners, Portslade Health Centre, Church Road, Portslade, Sussex, BN41 1LB Cheques payable to Dr Burt and partners.

SHEEHY - On March 15th 1993, Jean Newton of Sandwich, Kent, after a short illness. Dearly loved mother of Ann, Patrick and Mary. The funeral will take place on Friday 19th March at 3pm at Barham Crematorium. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, to the R.N.L.I.

SHORTER - Joan M.A. aged 89 years, widow of Alan Wynn, on 14th March 1993 peacefully at home, 27 High Street, Debenham, Suffolk IP14 6QN.

SIMS - John Galloway, on March 12th, suddenly, aged 68, dearly loved husband of Joan, father of Ian and Linda, and grandfather of Charlotte and Jack. Will be sadly missed by his many friends and colleagues at Times Newspapers where he worked for over 30 years. Funeral to be arranged.

STRAUSS - On March 11th, peacefully at home, Ruth, aged 89. Cremation 12 am Friday March 19th at Golders Green Crematorium. No flowers please, but donations if desired to Oxfam.

SWAN - Ann, 17.9.1911 to 12.3.1993, peacefully at John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford.

TRIGER - On March 13th, suddenly at home in Sheffield, David, M.A., D.Phil., F.R.C.P. (Post Graduate Dean, Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry, Sheffield University). Loving husband of Jennie, much loved father of Simon, Sara, Richard and Michael. Dearly loved son of Olga and the late Dr. Kurt Triger and brother of Gabriel. Private service and interment to be held at Abbey Lane Cemetery, Sheffield. A memorial service will be announced at a later date. Family flowers only please, donations if desired payable to Cardiology Trust Fund at the Royal Hallamshire Hospital, Sheffield or Oxfam may be sent to Wood Funeral Service, 848 Ecclesall Road, Sheffield S11 8TP.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

BASSETT - A Thanksgiving Service for the life of John Bassett FRICS will be held at St James Garlickhythe, Garlick Hill, London EC4, at 11.30 am on 1st April.

BOWLBY - A Thanksgiving Service for the life of Edward Francis Salvin Bowlby will be held on 25th March 1993 at 12 noon, St Michael's, Chester Square, SW1.

BOWRING - A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Frederick Beakbane Bowring will be held at St Paul's Church, Rusthall, Tunbridge Wells, on Friday 26th March 1993 at 2.30 pm.

JAMES - A Memorial Service for the life of Noel David Glaves (Jimmy) James O.B.E. M.C. T.D. will be held at St Mary's Church, Bicton, Devon, on Saturday 27th March 1993 at 3 pm.

WILLIS Ted. Commemoration St James's Piccadilly, Friday April 2nd at 11.30. Writers Guild Of Great Britain.

IN MEMORIAM — PRIVATE

CRACKNELL - In ever loving memory of Freda, dearly beloved first wife of Desmond and mother of Valerie, Vivienne, Roger and Victor, who passed away on March 16th 1980. Our brave, brave 'wee one', now safe in the arms of God.

HUTT - Rosemary, died March 16th last year. In loving memory and always in our thoughts. David, Rosamond, Tilly, Juliet and all her family.

PRYOR - In ever-loving memory of my dearest Aunt Janet Frances Pryor. Born 25/3/1891 died 16/3/1989. Continuously in my thoughts - your Mick.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CAPRA (UK). The Counselling & Psychotherapy Referral Agency. Tel 0923 823483 Director Gabriel Altman, 24 Crofters Road, Northwood, Middx HA6 3ED. SPECIALIST HELP WITHIN YOUR MEANS.

ENDINGS AND BEGINNINGS A 10 week workshop for divorced and separated people to come to terms with the crisis, rebuild confidence and gain new strength for the future. For more information and invitation to a free introductory evening call Divorce Recovery Seminars 071 226 9218

ANNOUNCEMENTS

JACOBS-CLARKE Another star is born. Clarke and Joanna's baby star Gupi has joined the galaxy of stars in the universe, with love from Daddy.

BIRTHDAYS

DENISE - How could I forget? You mean too much to me. Love as always, Neil.

FLATSHARE

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OBITUARIES

SIR KELVIN SPENCER

Sir Kelvin Spencer, CBE, MC, Chief Scientist of the Ministry of Power, 1954-59, died on February 28 aged 94. He was born on July 7, 1898.

KELVIN Tallent Spencer was one of the most erudite and distinguished of the aeronautical "back-room boys" of, successively, the Air Ministry, the Ministry of Aircraft Production, the Provisional International Civil Aviation Authority and the Ministry of Power, in the formative years between 1923 and 1959, when new technology was being brought to aviation and nuclear science. He contributed a brilliant mind and quiet authority to a generation of technical and administrative problems as they evolved on both sides of the Atlantic. In addition, his radical shift of position on the nuclear issue was to throw him into the spotlight after his retirement as a "gamekeeper turned poacher" spokesman on toxic waste.

On September 23, 1942, Spencer was, with Lord Brabazon of Tara, one of the first four members of the initial Brabazon Committee which met at 70, Pall Mall. In the midst of war they boldly recommended five types of civil transport aircraft for future development, "subject to the eventual availability of suitable engines". Spencer was a lucid advocate of the need for a new generation of very large, long-range, airliners to promote the ideals of international communication in a hoped for peaceful postwar world.

In particular, he suggested the application of wartime advances in technology to transfer, into a new air age, the standards of the luxury ocean liners. From that came the concept of a British aeronautical "flagship" to carry 50 passengers, on two decks, non-stop between London and New York in 20 hours, equipped with separate day and night cabins, and appropriate amenities. He proposed to the committee that the project (which Lord Beaverbrook named "The Brabazon One") should be reinforced by a small, high-speed mail-plane, flying the same blue riband route in stages. Spencer was to live to see that concept carried much further, 40 years later, through the 500 mph 400-passenger Boeing 747 in company with the 1,300 mph 100-passenger Concorde.

"K. T.," as he was known by his Whitehall colleagues, was born in Lausanne, Switzerland, the son of a British civil engineer. He went to University College School, Hampstead, where he did not enjoy his schooldays. He left at 15 to join his family in San Salvador, where his father had become general manager of the state railway system. There, Spencer served a year's apprenticeship on the railways before he returned to England at 18 to enlist in the Royal Engineers.

In March 1918, as a second lieutenant in charge of a field company, he won a Military Cross for bravery, throwing a pontoon bridge across the River Scheldt under fire which facilitated a successful surprise advance from the infantry and consolidated a valuable bridgehead.

On his demobilisation K. T.



joined the City and Guilds School at the Imperial College, South Kensington, and went from there to become a principal technical officer at the Royal Aircraft Establishment, Farnborough, from 1923 to 1935. There, in the Aerodynamics Department, from 1931, he worked under Dr Harold Roxbee Cox (later, from 1965, Lord Kings Norton) on the then abstruse problems of wing flutter and the stability of aircraft structures.

In 1935, when the RAF expansion programmes became a priority, Spencer moved from the RAE to the Research and Development department of the Air Ministry at Adastral House in Kingsway and then, in 1940, to the Ministry of Aircraft Production at Millbank, under its chief executive, Air Chief Marshal Sir Wilfred Freeman.

From the Air Ministry and the second Brabazon Committee, Spencer was seconded, first to the Air Registration Board, also under Lord Brabazon, and then to the Provisional International Civil Aviation Organisation in Montreal (under its president, Dr Edward P. Warner), as chief of the organisation's airworthiness section, where he drew up international standards which have stood the test of years.

In 1948, he accompanied Sir Frederick Tymms as the airworthiness representative on his civil aviation mission to advise the government of New Zealand, where he made many friends.

In 1950, Herbert Morrison, home supremo in the Attlee administration, persuaded Spencer, at the age of 52, to transfer from aviation into the Ministry of Fuel and Power as Chief Scientist there. The object was not that he should acquire a new stock of knowledge but that he should bring to bear his formidable intellectual equipment on a new range of activities in the three, then nationalised, industries of coal, gas and electricity.

In the following year, 1955, a government white paper proposed a civil programme of 12 nuclear power stations to provide, for Britain, 5,000 megawatts capacity by 1968.

As Chief Scientist, Spencer was concerned with both the development, and the safety of nuclear power for electricity generation. His concern was intensified by the accidental fire at Windscale when, in October 1957, one of the air-cooled reactors ignited fortunately without causing injuries to its staff.

Spencer's fears on these, and other aspects of nuclear safety, grew in later years. Having originally approved his own ministry's energy policy on the assumption that a safe means of storing radioactive waste would be found and that the scientists had identified all possible hazards involved in the waste's disposal, he began to share his doubts with the press after his retirement.

He was alarmed by the government's decision, in 1975, to allow nuclear waste from Japan to be reprocessed in Britain. Having been an expert witness after both the Sellafield and Windscale disasters, he stressed the problems inherent in handling waste from plutonium, which he called "the most lethal, toxic man-made element on earth".

Spencer received a knighthood when he retired in 1959, and moved to Branscombe on the coast of East Devon where, during the war, he had led the development — with the Washington Singer Laboratories — of explosive means of the airborne cutting of barrage balloon cables.

In retirement, Spencer provided, with relish and his usual good humour, expert contributions to committees at Exeter University and was elected a member of the Exeter University Council.

His wife Phoebe died in 1989. He leaves a son.

CARLOS MARCELLO

Carlos Marcello, reputed boss of the Mafia organisation in New Orleans died in Louisiana on March 2 aged 83. He was born of Sicilian parents in Tunisia on February 6, 1910.



IF ANYONE asked, Carlos Marcello was a tomato salesman. He must have sold a lot of tomatoes: at the time of his death he had a reputed net worth of $30 million. In later years, much of that fortune came from respectable property deals. What happened before is another matter.

True to the Mafia code of silence, Marcello never admitted his connection to organised crime. But in other respects he was a very untypical Don. Unlike other leaders of La Cosa Nostra, he seems to have eschewed violence, dressed modestly and avoided nightclubs. He conducted his business from an office in a seedy motel, and spent his free time with his family.

Brought to Louisiana by his parents as an infant, Marcello began his criminal career in 1930, by planning a bank robbery that was to be financed by holding up a grocery store. With two young accomplices he stole $65 from the shop, but the gang was arrested before it could rob the bank. Marcello was sentenced to nine to 14 years in the state penitentiary.

Released in 1934, reputedly through political influence, he opened a bar in New Orleans, then a liquor store, and four years later was behind bars again — this time for selling marijuana. His sentence was a year and a day. When he came out he worked for a distributor of illegal slot-machines.

Through this he met the New York mobster Frank Costello, who owned slot machines in New Orleans. Banished from the city, Costello handed over control of 250 machines to Marcello.

In April 1947, when the reputed boss of the New Orleans Mafia, Silvestro "Silver Dollar Sam" Carollo, was deported to Sicily, Costello backed his protégé to succeed him, and Marcello was sworn in as the new capo.

Refusal to testify before the Kefauver committee on organised crime in 1951 brought Marcello a six-month sentence for contempt of Congress. The conviction was overturned on appeal, but he was then threatened with deportation from the United States.

The deportation process took eight years. Finally, in 1961, Attorney-General Robert Kennedy sent Marcello to Guatemala, claiming he was a Guatemalan citizen. This probably surprised Marcello — it was said that a birth certificate bearing his name had been found in a Guatemalan village — but it hardly inconvenienced him.

Two months later, by unknown means, he found his way back to the US. Repeated attempts to deport him again were thwarted by the refusal of any other country to take him.

Marcello's hatred of Robert Kennedy led to suspicion, based on surveillance tapes, that he was involved in the assassination of Kennedy's brother, but the case was never proven. The official verdict of the House Select Committee on Assassinations, reached in 1979, was merely that it could not rule out Mafia involvement.

In 1969 Marcello was given a six-month sentence for assaulting an FBI agent, and went to prison saying that he needed the rest. He was less sanguine about a conviction for conspiring to bribe a federal judge in 1981. It carried a ten-year sentence, though he was released after serving only four.

Welcomed home by his family in 1989, Carlos Marcello, otherwise known as "the Little Man" because of his 5ft 3in stature, settled down to a quiet life. "I'm retired," he said in a 1990 interview. "I'm happy. Everybody's been nice to me."

He is survived by his wife, Jacqueline, one son and three daughters.

PROFESSOR WILLIAM PRICE

Professor William Charles ("Bill") Price, FRS, physicist and spectroscopist, Wheatstone Professor of Physics, London University, 1955-76, died on March 10 aged 83. He was born in Swansea on April 1, 1909.

BILL PRICE was an experimental physicist of the old school. If he wished to develop research apparatus he was quite capable of designing and making it himself. Nothing pleased him more than to make use of the almost-forgotten art of scientific glass blowing.

The longest part of his scientific career was spent in the Wheatstone Physics Laboratory at King's College London (1948-1976). He was first appointed as Reader and became Wheatstone Professor in 1955. He was elected in 1959 to the fellowship of the Royal Society.

Following his BSc from University College, Swansea, Price spent three years at Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, as a Commonwealth fellow. Subsequently he was appointed to the University of Cambridge, first as 1851 exhibitioner, then university demonstrator, and finally as a prize fellow to Trinity College. During his time at Cambridge (1935-1943) Price demonstrated in the teaching laboratories to Rosalind Franklin, then a student. As fate would have it, Price met up again with Rosalind Franklin at King's College London where they both worked on the structure of DNA, Franklin by the method of X-ray diffraction and Price using infra-red spectroscopy.

During the second world war, Price made valuable applications in conjunction with the Royal Aircraft Establishment at Farnborough, mainly of ultra-violet absorption spectroscopy. For example, he showed that the concern was unfounded that German bombers were being built with a very light strong alloy containing the element beryllium which would significantly extend their range. Further, he was involved with the spectroscopic analysis of fuels taken from crashed German aircraft which established their sources of supply. Towards the end of the war, Price left Cambridge for ICI where he set up a spectroscopic group and he spent one year at the University of Chicago before joining King's College.

In his early research, Bill Price carried out pioneering work in the identification of Rydberg series in ultra-violet absorption spectra. He took the opportunity, after his appointment at King's by Professor (later Sir) John Randall who was then the Wheatstone Professor, to widen his spectroscopic interests. Indeed it was then possible to be active across the whole range of the subject including theoretical and experimental aspects of virtually the whole range of the electromagnetic spectrum as applied to gases, liquids, solids and polymers.

There was particular interest in the structure and function of nucleic acids and proteins. Results achieved by Price from infra-red absorption spectroscopy provided important pointers, especially relating to the alignment of hydrogen bonds relative to the DNA fibre axis. These results were of direct value in the consideration of the interpretation of the DNA X-ray diffraction patterns taken at King's by Maurice Wilkins, Rosalind Franklin and Raymond Gosling. The summation of the work at King's made a crucial contribution to the determination of the double helical structure of DNA and to the Nobel Prize awarded for the work jointly to Crick, Watson and Wilkins.

Bill Price himself came close to (at least) two Nobel Prizes. He carried out distinguished research in ultra-violet, infra-red and photoelectron spectroscopy and made particular contributions to the advance of fundamental physics through instrumental development with good design and careful measurement of spectroscopic data.

Besides his research, Price was a dedicated teacher of physics and many colleagues, research associates and generations of both undergraduate and postgraduate students have good cause to remember his inspiration as a teacher and his warmth of personality.



He is survived, after 54 years of marriage, by his wife, Nest, and their son and daughter.

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DEVALANKUNDA VADIRAJ

Devalankunda Vadiraj, Indian sculptor, died on February 22 aged 72. He was born in 1920.

DEVALANKUNDA Vadiraj was one of the most dedicated traditional sculptors of India. His love of the great ancient carvings of his country was nurtured from birth, for he was born into a family of temple priests and came from a long line of hereditary guardians and teachers of Indian religious learning — the Vedas, Puranas and Shastras.

His childhood was spent in the precincts of the Vishnu temple in Devalankunda, Karnataka, where he particularly delighted in the Vishnu icon. Schooled by his elders in the scriptures and stories of the deities in their struggle against evil, he grew up with a profound respect for these gods, which deeply influenced his work as a sculptor.

His father died when he was nine, and he and his family moved to the famous temple town of Nanjangud, where he soon absconded from school to spend his days roaming the vast temple compound in search of the beautiful carvings to be found in every nook and corner. His favourite deities were carved in the seven-story gateway in sculptures which recalled their deeds of bravery and righteousness.

His family sent him to the school of art started by the Maharaja of Mysore where he studied stone, wood and ivory carving under two gurus, Ganapatappa and Venkatappa, whose families had been masters of the temple arts for generations.

They took this single-minded, gifted pupil into their families and allowed him to help with their private work. As he put it: "My gurus sought perfection and God-realisation in everything they created. I learnt the contemplative verses which describe each deity, and which I always recite before I start my work."

To further his studies he then travelled to compare the different schools of stone sculpture — Chola and Pallava in granite, Chalukya in sandstone, and Hoysala in soapstone. Preferring to work in granite, he sought his own style and identity within the traditional discipline, finding great pleasure in seeing a block of stone come alive in shape and form and eschewing unnecessary detail.

Appointed chief artist in the wood-carving section at the Bangalore Centre of the Akhil Bharat Karakushal Mandali, he worked under the guidance of renowned experts such as Hariharan. On leaving this government post, he continued his studies and worked independently, producing some remarkable sculptures. As early as 1965, the government of India honoured him for his role in preserving the traditional style of sculpture, and he received many awards, including one from Mrs Gandhi.

In 1982 he led the team of prominent Indian artists participating in the "Living Arts of India" festival held in the United Kingdom — exhibiting at the Serpentine Gallery in Hyde Park and Cardiff, Glasgow, Bradford and Sheffield.

He returned to England six times between 1985 and 1992 to take part in "Art in Action" — a regular workshop held at Waterperry House, Oxfordshire. A highly disciplined yet unassuming man, he was extremely generous and delighted in the work of other fine artists.

His sculptures are to be found not only in temples, but in many national and private collections in India and abroad — the National Museum in Delhi, the Birla Collections in Delhi, Ranchi and Calcutta and the collection in the Kyoto Gardens, Japan.

He is survived by his wife and son.



A stone carving by Vadiraj in traditional Indian style

LYNCH LAW IN NEW ORLEANS.

...When the prison was reached the main part of the armed and organized contingent of the mob was deployed in front of the gate on Orleans-street, other squads being detailed to surround the building.

The leaders stood on either side of the entrance and selected from eager applicants the 50 men whom it had been decided should execute the sentence of Judge Lynch. Only these were allowed to enter.

As they ran up the stairs they heard footsteps pattering along the gallery. "There they are," cried one enthusiast.

It had been intended to take Macheca, who had been the leader of the Italian assassins, outside and hang him: but in the meantime another section of the mob had broken into the cell where he was confined. He heard the men coming and rushed from the cell, but was cornered in the gallery of the condemned prison. Here a young man in the mob hit him on the head with the butt end of a rifle, which caused him to drop senseless. It was reported that he was dead: but as the crowd was about to leave some one suggested that as an extra precaution he should be placed beyond any possibility of recovery, a bullet was fired through his brain at point-blank range, and his corpse was left where it fell.

But a still more dreadful act of the tragedy was yet to come. The avengers were not yet satisfied. They wanted more. They got hold of Bagnetto and dragged him him out of the building. He had already been fatally wounded, and his dark face was besmeared with blood. As the crowd in the square caught sight of him they uttered a roar of rage. They had heard shots within the gaol, but had not seen the slaughter. Some one brought a rope, which was noosed and thrown round the man's neck. The other end was cast over the limb of a tree. The dying wretch was swung up, then a fusillade from a score of weapons ended his sufferings.

In another instant, a side door of the prison opening on Marai's-street was pushed open and several armed men appeared pushing before them Polizzi, the half-crazed Sicilian who offered to turn State's evidence. He looked aghast with terror and was evidently quite mad. He was without coat or hat and his long black hair hung over his face.

At the corner is a lamp post. A man threw a rope across the street. Another man scaled the post and passed the rope over it with a noose at one end. The noose was adjusted round the neck of the trembling wretch by willing but unskilled hands, the other end of the rope was tugged at by a line of men who quickly formed for the purpose. The man was hoisted into the air, but only for an instant, for the rope slipped and he fell to the pavement. In a couple of seconds the rope was re-adjusted, strong hands pulled it taut, and the body was dangling from the post. As soon as the man was high enough to make the range safe and allow the shots to escape the heads of the people a dozen reports rang out. The blood gushed from Polizzi's face and many shots riddled his body. The rope was tied securely to the post and the corpse left hanging.

ON THIS DAY

March 16 1891

Nothing is left to the imagination in this gruesome report of the lynching of 11 Italians accused of the murder of the New Orleans chief of police.

THE TIMES TODAY

TUESDAY MARCH 16 1993

NEWS

Lawson wants £6bn tax increases

■ Lord Lawson, a former Chancellor, last night warned Norman Lamont that it would be a serious mistake if he did not raise taxes by £6 billion in today's Budget.

The former Chancellor's intervention came amid growing signs that Mr Lamont's speech to the Commons today could herald swingeing tax increases next year scheduled for next year ..... **Pages 1, 4, 8, 18, 19, 23, 27**

Peking threatens 'treacherous Patten'

■ Li Peng, the Chinese prime minister, used the annual opening of parliament to accuse Chris Patten, the Hong Kong governor, of treachery and threatened reprisals over his plans for democratic reforms in the colony. Mr Li warned that Britain would be exclusively responsible for all serious consequences..... **Pages 1, 10, 18, 23, 27**

Visiting prince

The Prince of Wales is to visit some of the 2,500 British troops in Bosnia-Herzegovina when he flies by Royal Navy Sea King helicopter to the troubled region today..... **Pages 1, 15**

BBC storm

Public support for the position of John Birt as director-general of the BBC grows, but pressure on the chairman, Marmaduke Hussey, to resign is mounting..... **Pages 1, 19**

Aids doctor

Yarab Mudrik Almahawi, 33, a trainee GP who died of an Aids-related illness, was said to have taken part in up to 100 operations during two years at Dungannon. **Pages 1, 2, 17, 19**

Rugby death

Seamus Lavelle, 25, a rugby forward, has died of head injuries suffered in a clash with a rival player in a junior club match between Hendon and Centaur..... **Page 3**

Pits 'viable'

A report commissioned by the government says that between seven and 14 of 31 pits scheduled for closure by British Coal could be economic..... **Page 2**

Annual shilling

Sigrid Griffiths, the divorced first wife of Sir Eldon Griffiths, former MP for Bury St Edmonds, receives 5p a year maintenance, and is claiming £74,000 damages from solicitors she blames for not obtaining a better settlement..... **Page 6**

Charities crisis

Many of Britain's top charities are spending more than they are being given largely because of a huge increase in requests for help, according to the *Henderson Top 1,000 Charities* guide..... **Page 6**

Drought warning

Water companies are already warning of possible drought as a result of a dry February despite early winter rain which brought prolonged floods to many parts of the country..... **Page 7**

Trade meeting

A meeting between President Clinton and Jaques Delors the EC president, has been arranged amid growing fears that America might be preparing for a trade war..... **Page 14**

Bombay bombs

Two more bombs were discovered and defused as Bombay, still shaken by the wave of explosions which killed more than 300, braced itself for further attacks. Police shot dead two men suspected of involvement in the bombings..... **Page 11**

Pay threat

Some local authorities, trying to salvage this year's national curriculum against the threat of mounting union disruption, have said they will dock teachers' pay if they take part in a boycott of tests..... **Page 4**

Form book before the Good Book

■ Father Sean Breen, parish priest of Templeogue south of Dublin, leads a migration of tens of thousands of Irishmen today to the Cheltenham National Hunt festival. Fr Breen, making his twenty-fifth pilgrimage to what his countrymen call "the crack", puts aside his Bible in favour of the form book for the three-day event..... **Page 3**



ADRIAN BROOKS

Sweet magnolia: Juliet Wragge-Morley and her son, Alexander, three, examine the early blossom at Kew. Migrant flight, Page 7

BUSINESS

Green shoots: Manufacturing output in Britain rose 0.8 per cent in January, the highest increase since March 1990..... **Page 23**

Thumbs up: The Clinton administration has approved British Airways' $300 million (£210 million) investment in USAir but continues to press its claim for greater access for American airlines to the British market..... **Page 23**

Markets: The FT-SE 100 index of leading shares ended up 6.5 at 2,922 in quiet trading as dealers marked time ahead of today's Budget. The pound eased .15 cents against the dollar to $1.4330 and closed down .52 pfennigs at DM2.3835..... **Page 26**

SPORT

Football: Chelsea's Ian Pearce is one of the talents chosen by the Times football correspondent, Rob Hughes, who are presently gracing the world under-20 football championships in Australia..... **Page 42**

Cricket: England's cricketers endured another long day in the field in Colombo. At the close of play on the third day of their Test match, Sri Lanka had reached 408 for eight, a first innings lead of 28..... **Page 44**

TV sport: The Premier League is prepared to delay the final games of Manchester United and Aston Villa until Sunday, May 9 to allow BSkyB to provide live coverage of both..... **Page 44**

New analyses: Many American women, told by specialists for the past decade that they should pay for a regular mammogram to survive breast cancer, are now seriously questioning that advice. Aileen Ballantyne reports..... **Pages 6, 17**

Self-elected swingers: From Kinsey to Masters and Johnson, sex surveys have seen themselves as presenting raw factual truth: not only about their particular set of subjects but about the larger society. They seem to make no allowance for those who may be economical with the truth. Janet Daley on a fresh survey..... **Page 16**

Naipaul honoured: The Trinidadian novelist V.S. Naipaul yesterday won the first David Cohen British Literature Prize, Britain's biggest literary award. He celebrates the mingling of post-colonial cultures which has enriched English literature..... **Page 37**

Wraps off the Savoy: Ravaged by fire three years ago, the Savoy theatre will open this summer with its interior restored to its former art deco glory..... **Page 38**

Ghosts of the past: Why doesn't the ghost in *Hamlet* terrify us as it did our Victorian forbears? Theatre critic Benedict Nightingale believes that today's actors have lost the art of being shocking..... **Page 39**

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS



Europerson, sculpted by computer and reflecting the average European, who is 31 years and six months and only 6 per cent British
Page 7



Jeremy Guscott, the Bath and England centre, has been accused of provoking an incident which saw an opposition player sent off
Page 44



Bonnie Haldeman, the mother of Waco cult leader David Koresh, has upset her son by selling film rights to the drama for $75,000 (£54,000)
Page 11

THE TIMES TOMORROW

Can Birt and Hussey survive?

■ Peter Fiddick assesses the roles of the governors of the BBC in the survival of John Birt, the director-general, and Marmaduke Hussey, the chairman?

Who wins in flatland?

■ A free-for-all or a breath of fresh air for flat-dwellers? Rachel Kelly's question-and-answer guide explains the proposed new law

Has facelift left Wren intact?

■ What have they done to the Old Observatory in Greenwich? Nigel Hawkes takes a look at the £2 million restoration of Sir Christopher Wren's magnificent Octagon Room

Who is a Greek goddess, a pre-Raphaelite heroine, Greta Garbo and Mother Teresa, all rolled into one? The answer in *Without Walls* (Channel 4, 9pm)..... **Page 43**

COMMENT

Danish pastry

Opposition to Maastricht is swelling in almost every EC country, but Danish voters are the only ones left with a direct chance to express their views..... **Page 19**

Aids panic

Mandatory tests might assuage public alarm temporarily, but would be insignificant in the battle against Aids..... **Page 19**

Budget dramatics

Gladstone drank sherry and whipped egg while presenting his Budget. Most of the human race care 50 times more for a drink than VAT rates..... **Page 19**

MICHAEL YAHUDA

It is necessary to appreciate the depth of distrust that China's oldest leaders harbour towards Britain over Hong Kong. These are men who came to political maturity in the aftermath of the first world war, and whose experience of the miseries in France from 1920 to 1926 did not suggest that the rulers of capitalist Europe were imbued with benevolence at home or abroad..... **Page 18**

BERNARD LEVIN

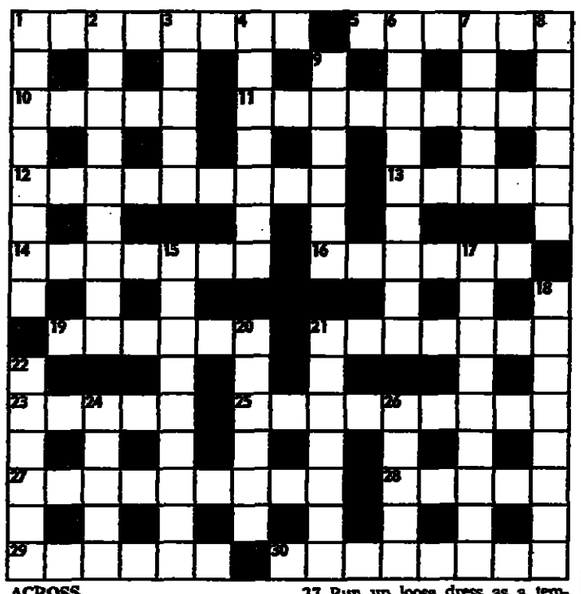
As I have pointed out before, no one has ever read *Das Kapital* right through, all four volumes. Marx himself didn't do so: he wrote the first volume, then handed the whole thing over to Engels, and washed his hands of the entire ridiculous caboodle, doing not a stroke of work ever again, and sponging off Engels to the end of his life. Yet the army of poodle-fakers that the mere word "Marxism" attracts all solemnly debate the blinding illumination that the book gave them..... **Page 18**

John Birt is criticised by the general secretary of the National Union of Journalists; defended by Sir Peregrine Worsthorne, Lady Howe and others..... **Pages 19, 27**

The Pentagon's motto after the Cold War could well be: Nothing exceeds like excess. It's clear that no new threat, or combination of threats, can measure up to the old Soviet menace.

The New York Times

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,179



ACROSS

1 Wanderer has connection with two states (8)
5 Composer achieving a success? (6)
10 Companion laid up with this ailment (5)
11 The layout of a climatologist's study? (9)
12 She's willing to leave things to others (9)
13 Furnish quarters directly (5)
14 Red admiral saves an agitator (7).
16 Hardy serviceman retired penniless (6).
19 Fraternize with big noise by hotplate (6).
21 How to protect source of gopher wood? Nonsense (7).
23 Asian king or judge enveloped in recurrent sea-fog (5).
25 Jonathan dates Victoria and Clementine in his shop (9).
27 Run up loose dress as a temporary measure (9).
28 Lightweight woman first to perform on stage (5).
29 Forced in this way to cross river to square (6).
30 Sadly gone are one's days of long journeys (8).

DOWN

1 One may be given a private address in this case (8).
2 It may be noted for sliding up or down (9).
3 Tree used in tribal sacrifices (5).
4 Northern Ireland adviser beheaded in West Africa (7).
6 Carrier for ugly woman with, say, canine travelling companion (6-3).
7 Swift and quiet in surprise attack (5).
8 Welshman keeps note of literary output (6).
9 House a man erected — a practical 24 (6).
15 In first half of programme, name these compositions (9).
17 Gaze, say, on container in the well? (9).
18 Furniture used when embracing a woman (8).
20 Scientist is away in an asylum (6).
21 Repeatedly visited by the relative he'd smothered? (7).
22 Quick to cut capers during training (6).
24 Common fellow, but quite a card (5).
26 Lock, but not for a stronghold (5).

Concise Crossword, page 44

Solution to Puzzle No 19,178

G	A	L	L	I	A	R	D		A	P	A	C	H	E
R		A		N		E		S		R		A		
A	S	S	E	S	S	M	E	N	T		A	R	M	Y
P		S		T		O		R		B		S		
P	H	I	L	A	N	T	H	R	O	P	I	S	T	
L		T		N		E		D		A		E		
E	Q	U	A	T	O	R		F	O	U	N	D	R	Y
		D		B				M		E				
E	M	E	R	A	L	D		B	E	A	G	L	E	S
	A		E		A		R		I		I		E	
	R	I	G	H	T	A	S	A	T	R	I	V	E	T
	G		U		I		V		L		E		T	
B	U	L	L		O	C	T	A	H	E	D	R	A	L
	E		A		N			D		S		E		E
D	E	B	R	I	S		T	O	N	S	U	R	E	D

TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 500 followed by the appropriate code.

Greater London	701
Kent,Surrey,Sussex	702
Dorset,Hants & IOW	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wilts,Glouc,Avon,Soms	705
Berks,Bucks,Oxon	706
Beds,Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops,Hereffds & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness,Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

Weathercall is charged at 36p per minute (cheap rate) and 48p per minute at all other times.

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For the latest AA traffic and road-works information, 24 hours a day, dial 0336 401 followed by the appropriate code.

London & SE traffic, roadworks

C. London (within N & S Circs.)	731
M-ways/roads M4-M1	732
M-ways/roads M1-Dartford T	733
M-ways/roads Dartford T-M23	734
M-ways/roads M23-M4	735
M25 London Orbital only	736

National traffic and roadworks

National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

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WEATHER

Cloudy in Scotland and Northern Ireland with outbreaks of rain, heavy at times especially over the hills. The rain will move south into northern England and Wales during the afternoon, with heavier bursts over western coasts. Southern counties will be cloudy but mainly dry, except for outbreaks of drizzle over southwest England and south Wales. It will become windy in the far north and west. Outlook: outbreaks of rain in the north.

MIDDAY: t=thunder; d=drizzle; lg=log; s=sun; sl=sleet; sn=snow; f=fair; c=cloud; r=rain

	C	F			C	F	
Ajaccio	16	61	f	Luxor	25	77	s
Alicnti	15	59	f	Madrid	14	57	f
Alex'dria	16	61	s	Majorca	16	61	f
Algiers	20	68	s	Malaga	18	64	s
Amst'dm	17	63	s	Malta	16	61	s
Athens	14	57	f	Melb'rne	25	77	s
Bahrain	20	68	s	Miami*	28	82	s
Bangkok	31	88	f	Milan	13	55	s
Barbados*	29	84	s	Montreal*	-11	12	f
Barcelna	11	52	r	Moscow	-2	28	c
Beirut	14	57	s	Munich	14	57	s
Belgrade	14	57	s	Nairobi	27	81	f
Berlin	14	57	s	Naples	17	63	s
Bermuda*	21	70	f	N Delhi	24	75	s
Biarritz	19	66	f	N York*	-5	23	f
Borde'x	17	63	r	Nice	15	59	s
Brussels	17	63	s	Oslo	1	34	lg
Budapst	7	45	s	Paris	17	63	s
B Aires*	30	86	f	Peking	14	57	s
Cairo	18	64	f	Perth	25	77	s
Cape Tn	26	79	s	Prague	11	52	s
Chicago*	-7	19	s	Reykjavik	0	32	c
Ch'church	16	61	s	Rhodes	14	57	s
Cologne	17	63	s	Rio de J	31	88	s
C'phgn	11	52	s	Riyadh	29	84	s
Corfu	15	59	s	Rome	15	59	s
Dublin	13	55	f	Salzburg	11	52	s
Dubrovnik	15	59	s	S F'risco*	18	64	c
Faro	17	63	s	Santiago*	29	84	s
Florence	15	59	s	S Paulo*	30	86	t
Frankfurt	16	61	s	Seoul	13	55	s
Funchal	14	57	c	Sing'por	30	86	f
Geneva	13	55	s	Stockholm	10	50	s
Gibraltar	17	63	f	Strasb'rg	16	61	c
Helsinki	11	52	s	Sydney	23	73	c
Hong K	27	81	c	Tangier	18	64	f
Innsbruck	11	52	s	Tel Aviv	15	59	f
Istanbul	9	48	s	Tenerife	15	59	f
Jeddah	28	82	s	Tokyo	5	41	r
Jo'burg*	21	70	t	Toronto*	-12	10	f
Karachi	30	86	s	Tunis	16	61	f
L Palmas	12	54	r	Valencia	16	61	r
Le Touqt	16	61	s	Vanc'ver*	7	45	r
Lisbon	15	59	f	Venice	7	45	lg
Locarno	13	55	s	Vienna	9	48	s
London	18	64	s	Warsaw	7	45	f
L Angels*	18	64	s	Wash'ton*	-3	27	f
Luxembg	14	57	s	Wel'ton	16	61	s
Luxor	25	77	s	Zurich	14	57	s

* denotes figures are latest available

Yesterday: Temp: max 8am to 6pm, 19C (65F); min 6pm to 6am, 10C (50F). Humidity: 6pm, 41 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6pm, nil. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, 8.8hr. Bar, mean sea level, 6pm, 1,024.8 millibars, rising.
1,000 millibars = 29.53in.

Sunday: Highest day temp: Skegness, Lincolnshire, 17C (63F); lowest day max: Inverbervie, Grampian, 8C (46F); highest rainfall: Cape Wrath, Highland, 0.12in; highest sunshine: Guernsey, 10.0hr.

Yesterday: Temp: max 8am to 6pm, 17C (63F); min 6pm to 6am, 5C (41F). Rain: 24hr to 6pm, nil. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, 6.3hr.

Yesterday: Temp: max 6am to 6pm, 12C (54F); min 6pm to 6am, 7C (45F). Rain: 24hr to 6pm, 0.15in. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, 0.2hr.

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	0.9	0.03	12	54	cloudy
Anglesey	-	-	9	48	cloudy
Aviemore	0.6	0.23	12	54	rain
Belfast	0.2	0.07	13	55	rain
Birmingham	8.0	-	18	64	sunny
Bognor Regis	10.2	-	15	59	sunny
Bournemouth	9.7	-	15	59	sunny
Bristol	8.5	0.02	17	63	sunny
Buxton	7.4	-	15	59	sunny
Cardiff	9.9	-	16	61	sunny
Clacton	7.5	-	12	54	sunny
Edinburgh	1.4	0.02	12	54	bright
Eskdalemuir	-	0.07	7	45	drizzle
Exmouth	9.8	-	15	59	sunny
Falmouth	8.6	-	15	59	sunny
Folkestone	10.0	-	13	55	sunny
Glasgow	0.2	0.15	12	54	rain
Guernsey	10.0	-	16	61	sunny
Hastings	8.7	-	12	54	sunny
Jersey	8.4	-	16	61	sunny
Kinloss	1.2	0.11	14	57	rain
Leeds	7.5	-	17	63	sunny
Lerwick	-	0.46	9	48	rain
Littlehampton	9.6	-	13	55	sunny
Liverpool	8.0	-	15	59	sunny
London	8.8	-	19	66	sunny
Lowestoft	3.1	-	14	57	bright
Manchester	6.3	-	17	63	sunny
Margate	9.6	-	19	66	sunny
Minehead	7.5	-	17	63	sunny
Morecambe	5.5	-	13	55	bright
Newcastle	6.8	-	15	59	bright
Newquay	4.0	-	14	57	fog
Nottingham	8.0	-	18	64	sunny
Penzance	2.7	-	13	55	bright
Plymouth	9.7	-	13	55	sunny
Poole	9.1	-	17	63	sunny
Prestwick	0.1	0.05	12	54	rain
Saunton Snd	8.0	-	14	57	sunny
Scarborough	8.1	-	16	61	sunny
Scilly Isles	-	-	10	50	fog
Shanklin	10.0	-	17	63	sunny
Southend	x	-	17	63	sunny
Southsea	9.7	-	15	59	sunny
Stornoway	0.5	0.33	7	45	rain
Swanage	9.4	-	14	57	sunny
Tiverton	9.2	-	18	61	sunny
Torquay	10.2	-	18	64	sunny
Weymouth	9.9	-	13	55	sunny
Wick	1.9	0.09	10	50	rain
Worthing	9.7	-	12	54	sunny

* denotes Not Available



London 6.30 pm to 6.13 am
Bristol 6.17 pm to 6.22 am
Edinburgh 6.18 pm to 8.26 am
Manchester 6.15 pm to 6.21 am
Penzance 6.28 pm to 6.34 am

Sun rises: 6.13 am
Sun sets: 6.07 pm
Moon sets 11.15 am
Moon rises 2.54 pm
New Moon March 23

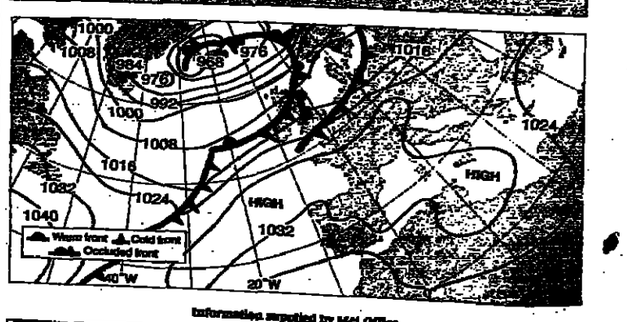
Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

	C	F			C	F	
Belfast	13	55	f	Guernsey	16	61	s
B'mgham	18	64	s	Inverness	12	54	c
Blackpool	17	63	s	Jersey	16	61	s
Bristol	17	63	s	London	19	66	s
Cardiff	16	61	f	M'nchster	17	63	s
Edinburgh	12	54	c	Newcastle	15	59	s
Glasgow	12	54	c	R'nldsway	17	63	s

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	7.31	6.2	7.54	5.9	Liverpool	4.58	7.5	5.50	7.1
Aberdeen	7.26	3.2	8.36	3.2	Lowestoft	3.39	2.1	3.45	2.0
Avonmouth	12.22	10.1	12.57	9.6	Margate	5.42	4.0	6.08	3.9
Belfast	5.15	2.9	6.05	2.8	Milford Haven			12.19	5.0
Cardiff	12.07	9.5	12.42	9.1	Newquay	11.19	5.1		
Devonport			12.03	4.2	Oban	12.35	2.5		
Dover	4.49	5.4	5.30	5.2	Penzance	11.23	4.2	11.50	4.3
Falmouth	11.33	4.0			Portland	11.52	1.3		
Glasgow	6.08	4.1	6.32	3.9	Portsmouth	4.59	3.8	6.02	3.8
Harwich	5.30	3.3	5.56	3.1	Holyhead	4.39	4.9	5.36	4.7
Holyhead	4.26	4.4	5.29	4.2	Southampton	4.55	3.7	5.57	3.7
Hull	-		12.15	5.8	Swansea			12.27	7.1
Ilfracombe			12.00	6.6	Tees	9.48	4.3	10.48	4.2
King's Lynn	12.02	5.0	12.27	4.8	Tilbury	8.44	4.4	9.34	4.3
Leith					Wilton-on-Nze	5.30	3.5	5.58	3.3

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.14	1.94
Austria Sch	17.85	16.25
Belgium Fr	52.90	47.90
Canada $	1.91	1.75
Denmark Kr	9.79	8.99
Finland Mrk	9.29	8.49
France Fr	8.58	7.88
Germany Dm	2.525	2.325
Greece Dr	341.00	316.00
Hong Kong $	11.75	10.75
Ireland Pt	1.031	0.9510
Italy Lira	2385.00	2240.00
Japan Yen	187.25	168.25
Netherlands Gld	2.645	2.415
Norway Kr	10.73	9.93
Portugal Esc	232.40	214.40
South Africa Rd	5.40	4.70
Spain Pta	176.00	163.00
Sweden Kr	11.82	11.02
Switzerland Fr	2.31	2.13
Turkey Lira	14080.0	13080.0
USA $	1.525	1.40

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.



Information supplied by Met Office

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LAW 31-35
How lawyers work out their charges



ARTS 37-39
V.S. Naipaul on the latest reward of a writer's life



SPORT 40-44
Football's young generation shows its talents

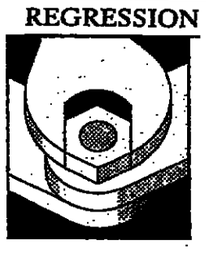
INVENTING A SMALL BUSINESS
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THE TIMES 2

TUESDAY MARCH 16 1993

BUSINESS TODAY

REGRESSION



Delta and IMI, two engineers that hoped Continental markets would offset poorer UK demand, report lower 1992 profits.
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RELIEF

Lloyd's names will be relieved by a court ruling in a stop-loss test case that offers them relief from their financial plight.
Page 25

RESHUFFLE

Clarks

A reshuffle among shoe companies looks likely after FII's shares were suspended and Berisford said it was looking at C&J Clark.
Page 24

THE POUND

US $ ..... 1.4330 (-0.0015)
German mark ... 2.3835 (-0.0052)
Exchange index ..... 77.2 (-0.1)
Bank of England official close (4pm)

STOCK MARKET

FT-SE 100 ..... 2922.4 (+8.5)
Dow Jones ... 3429.44 (+1.62)*
Nikkei Avg ... 18086.18 (+48.66)

INTEREST RATES

London Bank Base 6%
3-month Interbank ..... 6-5⁷⁄₁₆%
US Federal Funds 3¼%*
3-month Treas Bills 2.99-2.97%*
Long Bond 6.91%*

CURRENCIES

New York:		London:	
£/$	1.4345*	£/$	1.4335
$/DM	1.6614*	£/DM	2.3848
$/SWfr	1.5215*	£/SWfr	2.1815
$/Ffr	5.6465*	£/Ffr	8.1080
$/Yen	118.48*	£/Yen	169.62
£/SDR	1.0438	£/ECU	1.2304

London Forex market close

GOLD

London Fixing ($):
AM 327.90 ..... PM 328.00
Close 328.60-329.10
New York:
Comex 329.05-329.55*

RETAIL PRICES

RPI ..... 137.9 January (1.7%)
* Denotes midday trading price

White House approves BA tie with USAir

By Martin Fletcher and Colin Narbrough

■ **British Airways finally gained approval for its crucial $300 million investment in USAir despite strong opposition from the America's three leading carriers**

BRITISH Airways yesterday gained the foot in the door of the lucrative North American market it had sought for so long, but the Clinton administration made clear the airline will face big problems in forcing the door open wider.

The US Department of Transportation let stand BA's initial investment of $300 million in the ailing American airline USAir. However, it attached various awkward conditions and caveats to placate American, Delta and United, the big three US airlines that had lobbied furiously against a deal they said would give BA an unfair advantage on transatlantic routes.

The department approved BA's valuable "code-sharing" and "wet-leasing" arrangements with USAir, but for one year only. The code-sharing agreement will enable BA effectively to extend USAir's domestic operations into a "seamless service" across the Atlantic by co-ordinating flights and computer reservations. The wet-leasing enables it to use USAir aircraft for flights to London from Pittsburgh and Baltimore, though not between London and a third American hub, Charlotte, North Carolina. The department said it intended to renegotiate the restrictive US-UK aviation agreement to get better terms for US airlines, which want greater access to Heathrow.

The department also said it would launch a formal review of BA's proposed three-phase investment in USAir and strongly suggested that approval of phases two and three, amounting to $450 million over the next five years, would be contingent on the outcome of those negotiations.

BA's initial $300 million investment by itself gives it no control over USAir, and Federico Pena, the transportation secretary, called it a "hook" which the administration would use to press the British government into a new bilateral agreement "sometime this year".

"The change in dynamics here allows us to have real negotiations because everyone has made some investment and commitments," he said.

Sir Colin Marshall, the BA chairman, expressed immediate delight at the decision.

The strategic stake in USAir was the brainchild of Lord King, the former BA chairman, who saw it as the lynchpin that would finally make BA a truly global operator. Approval from the American authorities comes only five days after finalisation of BA's tie-up with Qantas, the Australian national carrier.

In a cautiously worded statement, Sir Colin said BA looked forward ultimately to linking more domestic USAir flights to its worldwide network. Under the code-sharing deal, BA will wet-lease USAir planes and crew but refurbish them in BA livery.

Initially it will operate a couple of USAir planes on its new direct services from Gatwick to Pittsburgh and Baltimore. Charlotte, is being held up pending formal permission for a route licence.

Robert Crandall, president of American Airlines, told *The Times* last week that code-sharing was the part of the BA-USAir deal that had to be stopped, as it would allow BA to offer products no American carrier could match, giving BA a huge "unfair" advantage. He said BA would be right to push, if the Clinton administration behaved like a "bunch of wimps".

City analysts hailed the American go-ahead to the BA-USAir link-up as an important boost to BA's position in the battle for lucrative long-haul business.

Rival European carriers, such as KLM and SAS, have already established links with American carriers, but the partnerships have nothing like the clout BA-USAir will have in the market.

Even if BA does not go beyond the first phase of its USAir stake-building plan, it has secured the crucial code-sharing deal it wanted, one analyst said. In any event, BA has escape clauses beyond the first $300 million phase.

Mr Pena, who is to meet John MacGregor, his British counterpart, shortly, also said he believed the second two phases of BA's planned investment would require Congress to change the law governing foreign ownership of US airlines.

Pound helps HSBC soar 94%



Pressure from Peking: A Hong Kong broker shouting during trading yesterday that saw the Hang Seng index fall 353 points. The drop followed China's attacks on Chris Patten, governor of Hong Kong. HSBC Holdings finished weaker, but the company reported a 68 per cent profit rise after the market closed. Right: Richard Delbridge, finance director, left, and John Bond, chief executive.



Man in the news, page 10
Michael Yahuda, page 18

By Patricia Tehan
Banking Correspondent

HSBC Holdings, the parent of Midland Bank, made pre-tax profits of £1.7 billion last year, a 94 per cent advance gained with the help of sterling's devaluation and an exceptional £270 million profit from the sale of its 10 per cent stake in Cathay Pacific.

The dividend increase was higher than forecast at the time of the Midland takeover, up 50 per cent to 19p. HSBC had committed itself to paying a HK$2 (18p) dividend, but will pay HK$2.23.

Ignoring the effect of the fall in the value of the pound last year, in Hong Kong-dollar terms, pre-tax profits were 56 per cent higher.

Bad debt charges soared from £502 million to £1.18 billion. Midland's bad debts accounted for 47 per cent of the increase, the rest included a £297 million provision against loans to Olympia & York, the troubled Canadian property developer, and a £90 million charge after a review of Concord Leasing's asset portfolio in America. The O&Y provisions account for 60 per cent of HSBC's total exposure. Group operating profits before bad debts rose 104 per cent to £2.59 billion.

The increase in provisions was offset by reduced charges from Marine Midland in America and Hongkong Bank of Australia.

John Bond, who took over as chief executive in January, said the bank had reviewed its lending policies as a result of the O&Y provisions and "it is unlikely that we would take on a major stand alone position of that size in the future".

Mr Bond dismissed fears that the group's figures could be harmed by political problems in Hong Kong.

Six months' contributions from Midland provided £184 million of profits, made up of £97 million attributable profits, adjusted to remove restructuring costs, a fall in the value of premises and the profit on the sale of Thomas Cook. Mr Bond said the integration of Midland is making encouraging progress.

Tempus, page 27

Factory output rise boosts Lamont

By Janet Bush in London and Tom Walker in Brussels

THE Chancellor goes into today's Budget armed with increasing evidence that the economy has stabilised and may be starting an anaemic recovery, the latest sign being a jump in manufacturing output in January.

The Central Statistical Office (CSO) said yesterday that manufacturing production rose 0.8 per cent in the month, having been unchanged in December from November.

The rise was much larger than the City expected with forecasts centring on a rise of 0.1 per cent. One month's positive manufacturing figure in a run of sluggish ones is likely to weigh against any temptation for a traditional Budget day cut in interest rates. There remained nervousness yesterday in the financial markets that Norman Lamont would opt for a tighter Budget than the £2 billion fiscal tightening generally expected.

He received a plea yesterday for a "Budget for growth" from Henning Christophersen, the EC's finance commissioner. The EC having failed to produce a credible growth package for Europe, Mr Christophersen said the British Budget was one of the missing pieces in his strategic jigsaw. Britain could provide the boost Europe needed. "You must make an effort to come up with an investment-loaded strategy," he said.

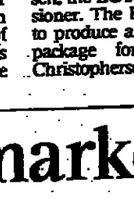
Sir John Cope, paymaster general, said the British recovery depended on exports continuing to rise, which in turn depended on demand in the rest of the EC growing.

The CSO said yesterday industrial production as a whole, which includes North Sea oil production as well as other energy and water-supply categories, fell 0.3 per cent in January, having fallen 0.2 per cent in December.

On the financial markets, sterling drifted a little lower. It closed at 77.2 on its trade-weighted index, compared with 77.3 on Friday. The gilt-edged market, which will be heavily affected by the Chancellor's latest forecast for the public sector borrowing requirement, ended mixed after a dull day with medium gilts a little higher and long gilts a touch lower. On the equity market, the FT-SE 100 index closed 6.5 higher at 2,922.4.

Tempus, page 27

Frightening markets with good news



ANTHONY HARRIS

You might think that Norman Lamont can hardly offend everyone today. Whatever fiscal decisions he takes, he will be able to cite respectable advice to do precisely that. Any exchange rate option, from a truly free float to a planned pilgrimage back to Europe, will make somebody happy. He can please industry with cunning tax incentives, or tax-transparency enthusiasts like myself by withholding them. And so on through the list of choices. Add the fact that the economy clearly is recovering; that any nasty side-effects on the trade balance will be largely invisible for some months; and above all that as he knows, whatever he does will have only a marginal effect on this picture; and he may well be singing in his bath even as you read this.

Wait a moment, though. There is one theme in the numerous guesses (or leaks?) that have come out in the last few days which shows a way of turning optimism to dismay; or which suggests, given this government's record, that he will still contrive to make a mess of it. This is the suggestion that he will produce new Treasury forecasts to show that the fiscal crisis that he is supposed to be confronting is a mirage. The projections for this year were too gloomy, the growth prospect now looks better, and hey presto! Oh dear me.

The question here is not whether the Treasury is at last going to get a forecast right; stranger things have happened, honestly they have. It doesn't matter, though: first, because nobody is likely to believe it; and more important, because even a reliable forecast should be of limited interest to anyone except gilts dealers. What the markets and industry want to know is that the government has a strategy. Forecasts are to strategy what charts are to a navigator: no substitute for knowing where you are going.

First, the matter of quality. The last man who needs reminding how bad official forecasts have been recently is Mr Lamont: but he may be hoping that the chastened modellers have now regained their old form, when Treasury projections of growth and inflation were often among the best available from anywhere. But even in its best years, the Treasury was always bad at one number: its own balance.

Official forecasts of government spending were especially wild, and often for good *Yes, Minister* reasons. The Treasury's main business is not forecasting, but keeping spending departments under control: its spending forecast is therefore a political statement. It cannot afford to admit failure in advance.

The spending departments also play politics, and make preemptive claims for funds they may not spend. Revenue flows are also capricious; so a borrowing forecast is a guess at the difference between two large, unpredictable numbers. Result, as often as not: chaos. The last published forecast for this year was some 10 per cent out, with only three months to go. Even the internal forecasts that are sent every month to people like the government broker are often badly out. The damage can range from unnecessary national crises, like 1976, to small flurries in the bill market. All experienced dealers in government paper know this. They also know that year-to-year swings in borrowing tell you much more about the business cycle than they do about the underlying growth of public debt, which is what matters in the long run. At the moment, for example, we are looking at a dive into the red between 1988-9 and 1993-4 that was last put at £60 billion. If Mr Lamont now guesses the swing at £50 billion, the broad picture is the same. And either way, much of this deficit will disappear as the economy recovers — about two thirds of it, if it is as bad as £60 billion. The Chancellor need do nothing about this.

What he does have to tackle is £18 billion of borrowing that is the result not of the business cycle, but of government decisions. This is the result of spending increases of £12 billion or so, once you clean out the effect of bad inflation forecasts, and tax cuts of £6 billion. If Mr Lamont produces a credible plan to correct this in a reasonable period, even with a slow start, he will get a Clinton vote of confidence from the gilts market. But if he simply tries to forecast part of the problem away, watch out.

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FII holds takeover talks with Clarks

■ At least two likely bidders have emerged for Clarks as shareholders of the privately owned shoe company prepare to vote on the future of their beleaguered chairman

BY JON ASHWORTH

FII, Britain's second largest footwear manufacturer, is in talks to buy C&J Clark, the privately owned West Country shoe group, for about £150 million.

Shares in FII were suspended at 488p yesterday. The company later confirmed it is in talks which may lead to a substantial acquisition. Sources close to FII confirm Clarks is the subject. Discussions are at an advanced stage but a deal is not imminent.

The talks trigger the prospect of a battle for Clarks, one of Britain's biggest private companies with sales of £600 million a year. Berisford International, the financial holding group, confirmed in a statement that it is "exploring the possibility" of making an offer for Clarks. Electra Investment Trust, the venture capital group, has previously emerged as a potential bidder.

FII, run by Monty Sumray, a well-known figure in the shoe industry, is a principal supplier of shoes to Marks and Spencer. The group last flexed its muscles in August 1986 when it bought Lotus shoes from Burton in a £19 million reverse takeover financed by cash and shares.

A bid for Clarks would be on a substantially larger scale. FII made a pre-tax profit of £6.5 million on sales of £80 million in the year to end-May. Clarks made a pre-tax loss of £3.5 million (£2.5 million profit) in the six months to end-June.

Clarks would not comment yesterday. However, it must disclose details of any potential bids by April 6, giving shareholders enough time to consider them before its annual meeting on April 30.

Talks with FII, now second only to Clarks in UK footwear manufacturing, have been proceeding since Christmas. The group threw itself open to bidders last year in an attempt to find a solution to a dispute that has split the Clark family down the middle.

Shareholders who attended a stormy meeting in Glastonbury in October were told the company was trying to sell control to an outsider in an effort to end the feud. The plan was to have Electra take a "friendly" 51 per cent stake, leaving no single grouping of Clarks with a majority. At least three further suitors subsequently joined the bidding.

Members of the 1,000-strong Clark family own 70 per cent of the shares with employees, institutions and family trusts accounting for the rest. The 4,100 shareholders have seen the value of their shares fall from £4 to 90p in the face of competition from foreign manufacturers.

Walter Dickson, the non-family chairman, is keen to sell a controlling stake for about £150 million and use the proceeds to promote Clarks internationally. A buyer would be paying for the brands: Clarks Shoes, Ravel and K Shoes in the UK and Bostonian in America.

Mr Dickson's plans triggered the family feud. A motion for his removal, due to be put to shareholders in October, was postponed until next month's AGM.

The acquisition of Lotus made FII the largest supplier of women's shoes to M&S. The company has factories in South Wales, Staffordshire, Northampton and Northern Ireland. Nearly 90 per cent of sales are in the UK with the rest split evenly between Ireland and mainland Europe.

MIKE SCOTT



High marks for fashion: Claremont's chairman, Peter Wiegand, left, and David McGarvey, managing director

Acquisitions boost Claremont

BY OUR CITY STAFF

CLAREMONT Garments (Holdings), one of Marks and Spencer's main clothing suppliers, lifted pre-tax profits to £8.5 million (£6.3 million) in the year to December 26.

Turnover soared to £81.5 million (£51 million) as a result of the acquisition of J&J Fashions, another M&S supplier, and Alexander Milnes, which makes women's coats and jackets for M&S, C&A and Next.

Peter Wiegand, chairman, said trading conditions remained difficult, but Claremont's strong line of products and its ties with M&S, left the company well positioned to take advantage of any opportunities.

Earnings per share were 16.4p (13.8p). A final dividend of 3.95p a share makes 7.25p for the year. Last year, pro forma dividends totalled 6.5p, which included a special demerger dividend paid by Alexon Group in lieu of a Claremont interim dividend.

The shares rose 5p to 345p.

Bigger DNA role for Amersham

BY GEORGE SIVELL, CITY EDITOR

AMERSHAM International, the health science group, is to pay up to £48 million for the United States Biochemical Corporation.

The deal places Amersham among the leading players in the DNA sequencing market, which is important in researching diseases such as multiple sclerosis, cystic fibrosis and rheumatoid arthritis.

The deal completes a missing link in Amersham's research ability by adding sequencing to its existing labelling and detection businesses.

The company is issuing 4.6 million shares at 712p to pay for the deal, of which 3.6 million are to be placed by the vendors. Amersham shares stayed at 739p yesterday. A further $17.25 million is payable for over the next three years, depending on sales targets being met at USB.

Amersham says the USB business will prosper from gaining access to the group's international sales network. USB is market leader in the North American life science industry in the manufacture and supply of DNA sequencing reagents and kits. Its main product is Sequenase, the leading enzyme for sequencing.

USB is expected to make profits of $3.6 million in the year to end-April, against $2.2 million before tax on sales of $35.7 million in the previous year. At the end of April last year, USB had net assets of $2.3 million.

Amersham said the acquisition will not dilute its earnings per share. Trading in the second half has remained broadly the same as it was in the first half, when operating profits rose 18 per cent, the group said. Results for the year will reflect only limited benefits of devaluation.

In 1990, Amersham sold its Amerlite medical diagnostics business to Eastman Kodak for £84 million.

Tempus, page 27

Second bid in battle for Brabant

BY PHILIP PANGALOS

THE tangled takeover battle raging at the smaller end of the oil and gas exploration sector took another twist after a possible white knight emerged for Brabant Resources. The USM-quoted oil and gas explorer said it had received a second bid approach, believed to be from a US company.

Brabant already faces an all-paper £7.5 million hostile bid from Aberdeen Petroleum, the US oil and gas production company, which in turn is being stalked by Pittencrieff, of Edinburgh. Aberdeen is offering only shares for Brabant as is Pittencrieff for Aberdeen. Aberdeen dismissed the Pittencrieff bid as "totally indadequate". The Pittencrieff offer is conditional on Aberdeen's bid for Brabant failing.

Brabant shares jumped 9p to 53p, against Aberdeen's all-paper offer of 57¾p. Aberdeen shares added ¼p to 16p and Pittencrief held steady at 356p.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Avesta Sheffield upbeat despite doubled loss

AVESTA Sheffield, one of Europe's leading stainless steel makers, is upbeat about 1993 prospects, despite the poor state of the market. The company, based in Stockholm but 40 per cent owned by British Steel, reported a loss, net of financial items, of 564 million kronor (£51 million) last year, more than double the 1991 loss. The figures reflected ten months of operations of the Swedish Avesta business alone, and two months including merged parts of British Steel. The British part of the company showed a 46 million kronor loss in November and December.

The devaluation of sterling and the krona are expected to lift sales. But the company, which achieved sales slightly higher at 7.59 billion kronor last year, noted that Germany, its biggest market after Sweden, will worsen this year.

Emess sales decline

WEAKNESS in the construction sector and high interest rates in Germany have hit profits at Emess Lighting. Sales declined to £150 million (£160 million) in 1992 and trading profits fell to £7 million (£10.5 million). Compliance with new accounting rules has required Emess to write off £17 million of goodwill on the £22 million sale of its Tenby subsidiary during the year. The exceptional charge against profits has pushed Emess into a loss for the year of £10.6 million. Under former rules pre-tax profits would have been £6.4 million (£4.2 million). The dividend for the year is cut to 0.1p (1p).

Argos closes pilot shops

ARGOS, the catalogue retailer, is to close its four pilot Chesterman furniture stores because sales have been below expectations. Closure costs, including asset write-offs, provisions for disposal of properties and redundancy costs of about 100 staff are estimated at £12.7 million. The expected tax credit arising is £3.7 million, while the costs will be provided in the 1992 accounts when Argos reports on March 22. David Donne, chairman of Argos, said it would have taken "an unreasonably long time for the Chesterman concept to make a significant contribution to profits."

Anglia partnerships

ANGLIA Television has formed three partnerships in America and Europe with Home Box Office (HBO), the programme division of Time Warner Entertainments. Anglia will pay $3.5 million in two stages to HBO for a 50 per cent interest in Citadel, a supplier of films for US networks and cable channels. HBO will pay Anglia $1.5 million in two stages for a 50 per cent voting interest in Itel, Anglia's overseas sales and distribution unit, which distributes HBO documentaries. The new partnerships will have headquarters in London and Los Angeles.

Leisure group in black

EUROPEAN Leisure, the discotheque, theme bar and snooker hall group, bounced back from a £46 million loss to a pre-tax profit of £54,000 in the six months to December 31. Last time, the result was weighed down by £45.8 million in exceptional costs and transfers from goodwill reserves. Turnover fell to £35.3 million (£39 million), mainly owing to continued disposals in the entertainments division. There is a loss per share after a token preference dividend of 0.65p (28.60p loss). No dividend on ordinary shares is being paid. The shares rose from 4¼p to 5½p.

BPP raises payout

BPP, the financial training and publishing group, lifted pre-tax profits before exceptionals by 20 per cent to £7.7 million on the back of a 15 per cent rise in turnover to £48.7 million for the year to end-December 1992. Letts Educational and Melrose, both acquired in 1991, contributed £3.4 million in 1992, compared with £0.3 million last time. The final dividend rose from 4.5p to 5.3p, making a year's total of 8p (6.9p). The shares were unchanged at 310p. There was a £650,000 exceptional charge for reorganisation measures, including staff cuts and school closures in Japan and France.

Wiltshire cuts losses

WILTSHIRE Brewery, the subject of a refinancing backed by United Breweries of India at the end of last year, made a £38,000 operating profit in the 12 months to November 30, compared with losses of £207,000 in the previous 14 months. One-off costs and interest payments, however, left pre-tax losses of £979,000, against a £1.39 million loss last time. There is again no dividend, but Vijay Mallya, the new chairman, said the intention was to return to a payment as soon as practicable. Wiltshire's name is to be changed to United Breweries.

Sweet result at Vimto

J N Nichols (Vimto), the soft drinks company, made pre-tax profits of £8.4 million (£7.7 million) last year. Turnover was unchanged at £47 million in the year to end-December. Earnings were 35.4p (32.6p) a share. A final dividend of 8.5p (7.7p) a share makes a total of 13.6p (12.3p) a share. UK sales of Vimto and expansion at Nichols Foods added £3 million to turnover. That was offset by the decline of the contract canning market, which affected the performance of Solent Canners, and a fall in export sales of almost £1 million. The shares fell 5p to 528p.

AMV lifts dividend

NEW business helped send operating profits 5 per cent higher to £4.46 million in the year to end-December at Abbott Mead Vickers, the advertising and marketing group. But lower earnings from interest payments on cash balances of more than £5 million left pre-tax profits of £4.72 million (£5.02 million). A final dividend of 6.3p makes a total of 9.3p (8.4p). David Abbott, the chairman, said the group's two main agencies had won new business worth £50 million in annualised turnover last year. A further £28 million has been won by the group this year. The shares gained 5p to 465p.

MAI advances to £34m at half time

BY SARAH BAGNALL

MAI, the money-broking and media group headed by Lord Hollick, the Labour peer, increased pre-tax profits by 12 per cent to £34 million for the six months to end-December 1992.

Growth came mainly from money and securities broking, which boosted profits by 16 per cent to £22 million, and from the sale of financial information, up 75 per cent to £2.1 million. The interim dividend was increased from 1.4p to 2p, to reduce the disparity with the final payment, Lord Hollick said. The shares rose 1p to 184p.

MAI also said that Sir James McKinnon, director-general of the Office of Gas Supply and a former finance director at Imperial Tobacco until its takeover by BAT Industries, was replacing Sir Graham Day as deputy chairman. Sir James is also a non-executive director of Scotia, a private pharmaceuticals company, and a consultant to the World Bank and Argentine and Polish governments. He is also a member of the Financial Reporting Review Panel, the accounting watchdog.

MAI's net assets rose from £150 million to £191 million, helped by the exchange last December of its stake in Avenir Havas Media for a French franc denominated convertible bond with a current market value of £45 million.

Cash and liquid investments rose £28 million to £184 million. Net cash stands at £56 million after capital expenditure of £38 million, which includes the bulk of the initial investment in Meridian, the ITV licensee for the South and South East. Lord Hollick said the costs incurred before Meridian started broadcasting were capitalised, which along with the costs of purchasing film rights and TV programmes boosted stocks and work in progress from £6.2 million to £25.3 million.



Lord Hollick: lifting payout

Troubled Olivetti plans big cash call

BY COLIN NARBROUGH, WORLD TRADE CORRESPONDENT

OLIVETTI, the Italian computer group, has decided to make a rights issue of 903 billion lire (£391 million) after suffering a sharp increase in losses last year, in part due to the lira devaluation, Carlo De Benedetti, the group chairman, said.

The consolidated net loss jumped from 460 billion lire in 1991 to 650 billion, as sales slipped to 802,000 billion lire from 861,000 billion.

Olivetti shares fell 7.5 per cent last week, amid market concern about the group's deteriorating results. The shares were suspended yesterday, ahead of the rights issue announcement. Olivetti said the proposed capital increase was intended to wipe out debt and boost investment. The funds will be raised through a six-for-four share issue and a six-year convertible bond issue. Group net debt has grown to 960 billion lire, reflecting radical restructuring and the devaluation of the lira last September.

Analysts fear that the deterioration at Olivetti reflects, on a smaller scale, the difficulties that have driven IBM deeply into the red. The size of the Olivetti rights issue is also considered ambitious, given the poor outlook for the sector.

Signor De Benedetti said the company would continue to seek to boost efficiency and reduce costs. The bulk of its restructuring programme had been completed, however, lowering operating costs by 400 billion lire over the past three years.

Despite the restructuring so far, analysts believe Olivetti has a long way to go. Some estimates suggest that it has to find further cost savings of 800 billion lire by mid-decade to stay internationally competitive.

The company said the decline in sales last year had been caused to a large extent by lower prices, but that the damage had been contained by an increase in sales volume. The operating loss rose to 230 billion lire, from 28 billion lire in 1991.

A large stake in Olivetti, about 40 per cent, is held by CIR and Cofide, Signor De Benedetti's holding companies. Shares in these companies were also suspended before the Olivetti results announcement.

Concern about Olivetti's continuing difficulties, in a globally troubled sector, fuelled anxieties about other parts of the De Benedetti empire. Shares in those Benedetti companies left trading, such as Valeo, the car components maker, dropped by almost 9 per cent.

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Court ruling gives names right to stop-loss payouts

By Sarah Bagnall
Insurance Correspondent

■ As Lloyd's names brace themselves to bear further losses of £2.4 billion on the 1990 account, a court ruling on stop-loss policies eases their cash flow problems

THOUSANDS of cash-strapped Lloyd's names have been given a liquidity boost as a result of a court ruling which stops hundreds of millions of pounds being snapped up by Lloyd's of London to pay off their solvency shortfalls.

Yesterday's commercial court ruling by Mr Justice Tuckey states that names are entitled to receive the payouts on personal stop-loss policies, which cap their losses on any one year of account. In 1989, an estimated 80 per cent of names had stop-loss policies, rising to 90 per cent by 1990. However, the number of policies affected is unknown because those specifying that the funds must be paid into names' premium trust funds are unaffected by the ruling.

Michael Freeman, a solicitor who acted for the names in the stop-loss test case, said the ruling lent support to another fight by names, which involves $126 million of tax rebates paid earlier this year by the American tax authorities. Mr Freeman said that some members' agents were paying the tax rebates, which relate to losses on the 1988, 1989 and 1990 years of account, into premium trust funds rather than to the names.

Historically, payouts on personal stop-loss policies have been channelled into premium trust funds and used to pay off any solvency shortfalls as part of the Lloyd's requirements that each name has to have sufficient assets held at Lloyd's to meet future losses.

The ruling will ease the cash flow problems of names who are already struggling under the weight of the £2.06 billion losses for the 1989 year of account, reported last year under Lloyd's three year accounting rules. Names are now bracing themselves for further losses, to be announced in June, which estimates last week put at a record £2.4 billion.

As a result of the ruling names can now use the proceeds as they like. If a bank is putting pressure on a name to sell assets in order to meet losses the funds can be used instead. "Or they can go on a round the world trip," Mr Freeman said.

☐ Early estimates put the losses from the weekend's storms, which swept through the US leaving a trail of destruction and damage in 12 states, in the region of "hundreds of millions" of dollars.

A Lloyd's spokesman said an accurate figure would not be available for several days because the damage was so widespread but it was likely to be far less than the $17 billion cost of Hurricane Andrew, the biggest insurance loss ever, which hit Florida last year.

Jim Welsh, a claims consultant at Property Claims Services in the US, said he expected the highest claims to come from Florida, hit by tornadoes, strong winds, flooding and hail. The effects on the state's vast citrus crops are yet not known. Heavy claims are also expected from Georgia and South Carolina, which, along with states stretching all the way to the Canadian border, were hit by heavy snows and strong winds.

A lot of business interruption losses in the south will not be insured because the weather is stopping people from getting to work, rather than the damage to property.

Lloyd's and UK companies have provided cover for catastrophes but their level of exposure is not yet known. However, General Accident, Royal Insurance and Commercial Union are thought to have the largest corporate exposure to the storms, which have been given the title of Cat 46.

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MICHAEL POWELL

More confident frame of mind: Robert Easton, the chief executive of Delta, has seen some signs of recovery and a rise in exports this year

Engineers wary of continental recession

By Martin Waller, Deputy City Editor

TWO of Britain's biggest specialist engineers have highlighted the difficulties of manufacturing industry by reporting lower 1992 profits while giving warning of the effects of a threatened downturn in important European markets such as Germany.

IMI, which is keen to keep to its acquisition programme to take advantage of low prices during recession, saw pre-tax profits drop by £5.2 million to £68 million. It blamed higher interest payments and a loss from the titanium business, which was hit by weak aerospace markets.

Pre-tax profits for the year to end-December at Delta fell from £64.1 million to £55 million after substantial restructuring costs during the third year of recession in Britain, which coincided with continuing difficulties in many of the group's overseas markets.

Both companies are maintaining fully covered dividends. IMI paying a final of 5.8p, for a total of 10p, and Delta a final of 9.8p, for a 14p total.

IMI saw a further record profit from its drinks dispensing equipment division and a marginal improvement from building products, but special engineering eased by £2 million to £12 million at the operating level and fluid power dropped from £22.2 million to £16.9 million. The latter is the most likely area for an acquisition, said Gary Allen, the chief executive, after a proposed purchase of a valves and control systems business fell through last month. IMI is considering candidates and is prepared to see gearing double to 50 per cent, which would provide £100 million for expansion.

He said there was little hard evidence in IMI's figures to suggest that the British economy was recovering; it would take time for the benefits of lower interest rates to flow through.

Continental economies were in decline. "One of my great strategic thrusts at IMI was to take it into Europe, and it's done very well in the past, but we're seeing Italy, Spain, the Benelux and particularly Germany with the sort of recessionary problems we've got used to here," Mr Allen said.

IMI shares were marked up 11p to 270p on the profits statement, which came in about £2 million ahead of expectations.

Delta, is also giving a warning that its continental markets are set to remain flat, although the building materials market in Germany is unlikely to decline at the rate of the rest of the economy because of demand in the east.

Pre-tax profits at the cables division fell by £4.4 million to £8.7 million, two thirds of that decline accounted for by restructuring costs in America. Losses continued at Delta's Supreinant American cable operation.

Robert Easton, the chief executive, said the chaos that accompanied Britain's exit from the exchange-rate mechanism had meant a loss of confidence on the part of the company's customers and a difficult last quarter, although the first couple of months of 1993 had seen restocking, some recovery and a rise in exports. Delta shares rose 9p to 444p.

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Bumpy ride for China Clays

By George Sivell, City Editor

ANDREW Teare, chief executive of English China Clays, the building materials and industrial minerals group, says the "aura of confidence that is building up in the British economy is a little early. We have seen this for each of the past three years". He believes the economy is on a "corrogated bottom".

America, however, is improving. English China Clays has doubled its proportion of sales there from 20 per cent to 39 per cent in the space of two years and is looking for a further acquisition there.

The group suffered a fall in pre-tax profits from £115.4 million to £86.2 million in the year to end-December. The total dividend is maintained at 20p despite earnings falling from 31.25p to 21.87p a share. The board took the unusual step of promising to "at least equal" 20p for 1993 "in the absence of unforeseen circumstances".

The company is also keeping a close eye on the German economy because of its influence on paper demand, an important consumer of English China Clays minerals. The group is also looking at business prospects around the Pacific Rim, including Taiwan and Indonesia, while China will also be considered.


Teare: cautious

Despite a rise in debts from £40.3 million to £172.8 million during the year, the English China Clays balance sheet is much stronger. Gearing is down from 64.5 per cent to 26.2 per cent thanks to the £209 million cash call in February to redeem auction market preferred stock.

English China Clays has charged an exceptional £14.3 million for 1992 to cover the writedown of British housing land and rationalisation costs offset by a £2.2 million pension credit. The group enjoyed an extraordinary £14 million profit on the sale of Haul-Waste and IDF International.

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Weak markets hit Laporte

By Patricia Tehan

LAPORTE, the chemicals group, saw pre-tax profits fall 10 per cent, to £86.6 million, last year, under the impact of depressed conditions in world chemicals markets.

The figure was in line with forecasts in January, when Laporte made its £130 million agreed bid for Evode, the glue-maker.

Profits were helped by an eight-and-a-half month contribution from Rockwood, the American construction chemicals group acquired in April last year, and by an increased contribution from the Interox peroxy business acquired after Laporte's joint venture with Solvay was dismantled last May.

Ken Minton, chief executive, repeated his promise that the Evode acquisition would enhance earnings in the current year. He said the integration of Evode was running smoothly. The merger of head office functions would save £3 million a year. Bidding for Evode cost the company £8 million in professional fees.

He said Laporte intended to keep 80 per cent of Evode's businesses, by turnover; there had been approaches from potential buyers for non-core operations.

The dividend for the year rises by 3 per cent, to 19.5p. Earnings per share fell from 40p to 39.2p. Mr Minton said there were signs of improvement in the trading climate.

Rugby Group holds profits and payout

By Our City Staff

RUGBY Group, one of Britain's big three cement producers, is not looking for any upturn in the housing market to restore the building industry's fortunes this year.

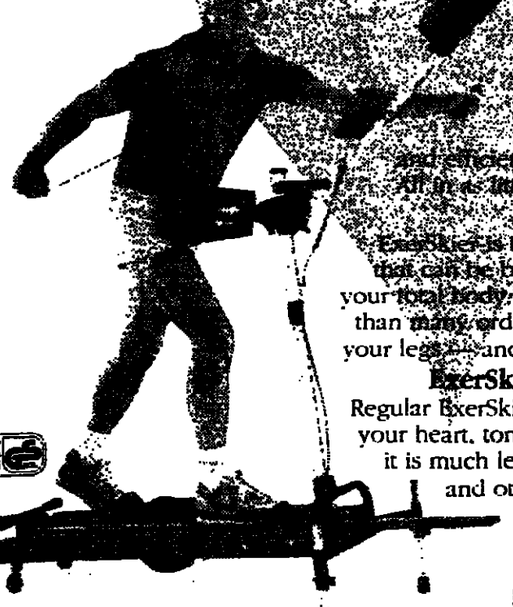
Rugby, with pre-tax profits barely changed at £57.6 million (£57.3 million) in the year to end-December, believes it can count on a more dramatic upturn in America and Australia, which had already shown signs of improvement in 1992. The total dividend is held at 6.45p, with a final payment of 3.6p.

Geoffrey Higham, the chairman, said the recession in Britain continued to depress sales, and profits in the second half were substantially below those in the first six months.

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Watmoughs profits bounce back

LONG-term contracts for colour magazines helped Watmoughs (Holdings), the printer, to lift pre-tax profits to £12.2 million for the year to December after the fall in 1991 to £8 million (£11.6 million). Earnings per share rose from 20p to 26p and the dividend is 11.5p (10.1p). Sales were up from £107 million to £118 million and operating margins improved by a percentage point.

Patrick Walker, chairman, said about 60 per cent of sales were five-year or one-year rolling contracts for leading titles such as *The Sunday Times* colour supplement, *You* magazine, *Cosmopolitan* and *Marie Claire*.

Watmoughs, which expects to start production in Spain next month of the Spanish magazine *Hold* and its English edition, *Hello*, forecasts income of £15 million from Spanish operations this year. In Britain, it has won the contract for *Sunday*, the *News of the World* colour supplement, expected to bring in £9 million in 1994. Watmough's gearing is 29 per cent.

In the black

Better grass-growing weather throughout Europe and tight cost controls helped Ransomes, the grass-cutting machinery maker, return to the black with a pre-tax profit of £900,000 in the year to end-December, compared with a loss of £4.6 million last time. Annual sales advanced 6.7 per cent to £156.6 million.

There was an exceptional charge of £1.8 million, relating to a writedown of assets on the transfer of the Brouwer operation from Canada to the US. The loss per share is reduced to 9p (17.3p). There is again no ordinary dividend. The shares rose 3p to 31p.

CABLES • CIRCUIT PROTECTION

DELTA

	1992	1991
	£m	
Turnover	785.9	774.0
Profit before tax	55.0	64.1
Earnings per share	23.0p	27.0p
Ordinary dividend	14.0p	14.0p

Copies of the Annual Report & Accounts for the year ended 2nd January 1993, from which the above is an extract, are available from 25th March from the Secretary, Delta plc, 1 Kingsway, London WC2B 6XF. Telephone 071-836 3535.

ENGINEERING • INDUSTRIAL SERVICES

STOCK MARKET

German rate hopes boost confidence

REVIVED hopes that the Bundesbank may cut German *interest rates at its fortnightly* meeting on Thursday, put investors in a confident frame of mind on Budget eve, adding a *second leg of support* to their hopes of a further cut in UK interest rates.

The FT-SE 100 index recovered an *early modest fall and* shrugged off the impact of a long list of ex-dividends, equivalent to a loss of a further seven points, to take a lead of more than 12 points. It later halved the rise to finish 6.5 up on the day at 2,922.4.

Dealers described trading *as thin and said support* had been selective. By the close, a total of 578 million shares had been traded. The Chancellor will today be forced to raise taxation in one form or another, yet investors remain optimistic. They are convinced another cut in domestic interest rates is on the way. A softening of German rates later this week may well pave *the way, even if there is no cut* accompanying the Budget.

Among the leaders, **British Airways** finished 3p higher at *298p; the news that its acquisition* of a stake in USAir had been given approval came too late to have any impact.

There was further heavy turnover in shares of besieged **Owners Abroad**, down 9p at 138p, with the deadline for the unwanted bid from **Airtours** due to expire later today. By the close of business, a further 28 million shares had changed hands, with rival Thomas Cook continuing to add to its stake in the company. It has paid more than 150p a share for a further 13 million shares, or 8.4 per cent of the company. Meanwhile, *the outcome of the bid* remains finely balanced. Airtours, 2p easier at 337p, expects to make savings of £20 million a year if the deal goes through and says it has received acceptances for 15 per cent of Owners' shares.

Hammerson, the property developer, benefited from a revival in bid speculation; the A shares climbed 26p to 361p and the ordinary 21p to 387p. Speculators are talking of an agreed bid from any one of a *clutch of prospective suitors*, ranging from British Land to Hong Kong Land and Elliot Bernerd. Followers of Hammerson said the expected boardroom reshuffle was more likely to be brought forward. Sidney Mason, chairman, and John Parry, managing director, are due to retire before the year end.

USM-quoted **Brabant Resources** jumped 9p to 53p when the market learnt of the counter-bid from an unnamed *party. The company is already* the target of a £7.5 million offer from Aberdeen Petroleum, which is itself now the target of an offer from 19 per cent shareholder **Pittencrief**, unchanged at 356p.

The composites were marked lower first thing as the insurers began to count the cost of the storms at the weekend in America. But the *view is that the damage will* not be as bad as feared. As a result, prices later rallied. **General Accident** fell 7p to 589p, *and* **Guardian Royal Exchange**, 1p to 184p, after going ex-dividend, while there were gains for **Royal Insurance**, 9p to 305p, **Sun Alliance**, 11p to 350p, and **Commercial Union**, 1p to 607p.

Despite the prospect of a rise in excise duty for beer, spirits and wine, the drink companies made headway. **Allied-Lyons** rose 5p to 568p, **Bass**, 9p to 585p, **Devenish**, 3p to 266p, **Grand Metropolitan**, 4p to 476p, **Greenalls**, 4p to 404p, **J.D. Wetherspoon**, 5p to 265p, **Scottish & Newcastle**, 7p to 469p, and **Whitbread A**, 12p *to 492p.*

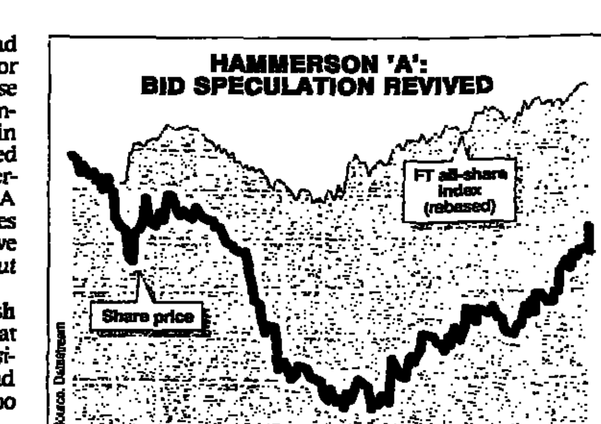
Argos recovered 9p to 295p after announcing plans to close its four Chesterman furniture stores at a cost of almost £13 million and the loss of 100 jobs. Rumours were rife in the market last week that the group was looking for a buyer for the loss-making stores.

Full-year figures from **HSBC**, the Hong Kong & Shanghai Bank group, received a warm reception from the City with the shares marked 12p higher at 616p. The figures, including a six-month contribution from Midland and helped by *currency movements, saw pre-tax* profits soar 94 per cent to £1.71 billion.

The rest of the banking sector was peppered with companies going ex-dividend, including **Abbey National**, down 7p at 371p, **Allied Irish Bank**, down 5p to 318p, **Barclays**, *7p to 407p, and* **Standard Chartered**, 5p to 709p.

English China Clays rose 6p to 459p after promising at least to maintain its 1993 dividend.

MICHAEL CLARK



Watch Hoskins Brewery, the *USM near-shell that was the* subject of a messy assault on the board by rebel shareholders last year. The thinly traded shares extended recent gains with a 10p jump to 53p amid talk of further corporate manoeuvring and possible outbreak of hostilities again.

Albrighton is about to hit the *acquisition trail* again after its recent rights issue. After paying £3 million for Tarmac's sandstone quarries, the group has £2 million to spend and expects to benefit from any recovery in the construction industry. The shares were unchanged at 18p.

BRITISH FUNDS

GOVERNMENT securities marked time as investors chose to await the Chancellor's Budget proposals before making their next move.

Prices enjoyed selective support at first but the lack of follow-through saw prices boil over around mid-morning *with most of the losses focused on shorts.* Exchequer 9¾ per cent 1998 shed three ticks to £112 17/32. At the *longer end, Treasury 9 per cent 2012* hardened one tick at £107 1/32.

The absence of institutional support meant that the cash market was content to take its lead from events in derivatives, where the June series of the long gilt fluctuated in narrow limits through most of the session. It failed to consolidate *on an early mark-up*, ending just one tick easier at £106 7/8 with turnover considerably down on last week's levels. A total of 19,212 contracts were completed.

1992/93 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
		SHORTS (under 5 years)				
104	100	Treas 13¼% 1993	102	...	12.22	5.57
100	95	Fund 6% 1993	100	..	5.99	5.57
107	103	Treas 13¾% 1993	105	...	13.03	5.40
102	96	Treas 8¼% 1994	102	...	8.28	5.39
110	104	Treas 14½% 1994	108	-	13.36	5.35
110	103	Exch 13½% 1994	108	-	12.44	5.51
105	98	Treas 10% 1994	105	...	9.50	5.51
110	103	Exch 12½% 1994	109	-	11.42	5.55
105	96	Treas 9% 1994	105	...	8.54	5.58
111	102	Treas 12% 1995	111	+	10.80	5.65
96	88	Gas 3% 1990-95	96	...	3.11	4.75
109	99	Exch 10¼% 1995	109	...	9.34	5.78
116	106	Treas 12¾% 1995	116	...	10.92	5.89
120	107	Treas 14% 1996	120	+	11.63	6.13
125	113	Treas 15¼% 1996	125	+	12.17	6.25
120	108	Exch 13¼% 1996	119	...	11.06	6.27
111	98	Conv 10% 1996	111	...	8.97	6.43
122	109	Treas 13¼% 1997	122	..	10.82	6.56
113	100	Exch 10½% 1997	113	...	9.24	6.53
108	94	Treas 8¾% 1997	108	...	8.06	6.52
132	117	Exch 15% 1997	132	...	11.35	6.76
112	97	Exch 9¾% 1998	112	...	8.66	6.67
		MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)				
103	98	Treas 7¼% 1998	103 †	...	7.14	6.49
101	86	Treas 6¾% 1995-98	101	-	6.68	6.54
138	123	Treas 15½% 1998	138 †	-	11.20	7.01
122	107	Exch 12% 1998	122	-	9.81	7.15
112	97	Treas 9½% 1999	112	-	8.46	6.91
124	109	Exch 12¼% 1999	124 †	-	9.85	7.20
117	101	Treas 10½% 1999	117	-	8.96	7.03
117	100	Conv 10¼% 1999	116	+	8.79	7.10
110	94	Conv 9% 2000	110	+	8.14	7.05
131	114	Treas 13% 2000	130	+	9.94	7.47
115	99	Treas 10% 2001	115	+	8.68	7.44
129	115	Treas 14% 1998-01	129	+	10.83	7.15
114	98	Treas 9¾% 2002	114	+	8.53	7.61
53	46	Treas 8pc 2003	53	+	7.72	7.56
116	100	Treas 10% 2003	115	+	8.63	7.70

1992/93 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
122	107	Treas 11¾% 2001-04	122 †	+	9.40	7.71
74	59	Fund 3½% 1999-04	74	+	4.71	6.80
112	96	Conv 9½% 2004	111	+	8.49	7.91
112	96	Conv 9½% 2005	112 †	+	8.48	7.95
131	116	Treas 12½% 2003-05	131	...	9.52	8.07
101	85	Treas 8% 2002-06	100 †	+	7.94	7.92
125	110	Treas 11¾% 2003-07	125	+	9.39	8.02
104	89	Treas 8½% 2007	103	+	8.19	8.05
139	123	Treas 13½% 2004-08	139 †	...	9.70	8.06
		LONGS (over 15 years)				
108	93	Treas 9% 2008	107 †	+	8.34	8.10
99	85	Treas 8% 2009	99 †	+	8.08	8.15
107	93	Conv 9% 2011	107	+	8.41	8.25
107	93	Treas 9% 2012	107	+	8.41	8.27
76	62	Treas 5½% 2008-12	75	+	7.26	7.97
97	81	Treas 7¾% 2012-15	96	+	8.04	8.10
135	118	Exch 12% 2013-17	134	+	8.93	8.45
105	91	Treas 8¾% 2017	104	+	8.94	8.33
		UNDATED				
47	39	Consols 4%	47	+	8.41	..
42	35	War Ln 3½%	41	+	8.40	...
63	59	Conv 3½%	62 †	...	5.59	...
31	24	Consols 2½%	31 †	+	8.03	...
30	24	Treas 2½%	29 †	-	8.41	..
		INDEX-LINKED				
133	122	Treas IL 2% 1994	132	...	...	0.75
197	176	Treas IL 2% 1996	196 †	...	1.48	2.18
108	100	Treas IL 4⅝% 1998	108	+	2.00	2.54
166	139	Treas IL 2½% 2001	166 †	+	2.59	2.91
162	135	Treas IL 2½% 2003	162	+	2.76	3.03
110	101	Treas IL 4⅜% 2004	110 †	+	2.88	3.14
168	137	Treas IL 2% 2006	168	+	2.99	3.20
152	124	Treas IL 2½% 2009	151	+	3.21	3.40
157	129	Treas IL 2½% 2011	156	+	3.30	3.46
129	106	Treas IL 2½% 2013	128	+	3.35	3.50
137	112	Treas IL 2½% 2016	137	-	3.42	3.56
131	107	Treas IL 2½% 2020	131 †	+	3.48	3.60
109	88	Treas IL 2½% 2024	108	+	3.50	3.62
109	91	Treas IL 4⅛% 2030	109	+	3.51	3.64

WALL STREET

New York — Shares were higher in morning trading in what analysts said was a gentle follow through on an attempted rally late on Friday. The Dow Jones industrial average was up eight points to 3,436. Analysts said the first real test for the *market* this week would be the US consumer price index figures for February tomorrow.

☐ **Tokyo** — The Nikkei *index* gained for the seventh consecutive day, although profit-taking capped top prices. The Nikkei index closed up 48.66 points at 18,086.18.

☐ **Sydney** — The Australian *share market recovered slightly* after Labor's election win on Saturday. The All-ordinaries index was down 35.1 at 1,626.4.

☐ **Frankfurt** — German share prices ended mostly lower in an uncertain market. The DAX 30-share *index* closed 4.57 points lower at 1,702.57.

Reuter

	Mar 15 midday	Mar 12 close
AMP Inc	59	59
AMR Corp	59	60
Abbott Labs	26	26
Aetna Life	47	47
Ahmanson (HF)	20	20
Air Prod & Chem	44	44
Albertson's	52	52
Alcan Aluminum	19	18
Alco Standard	42	42
Allied Signal	67	66
Alum Co of Am	69	69
Amax	19	19
Amerada Hess	51	50
Amer Brands	33	33
Amer Cyanamid	51	51
Amer El Power	35	35
Amer Express	27	28
Amer Genl Corp	31	31
Amer Home Pr	65	63
Amer Intl	122	122
Amer Stores	40	40
Amer T & T	57	57
Ameritech	73	72
Amoco	54	53
Anheuser-Busch	53	55
Apple Computer	55	56
Archer Daniels	26	25
Arkla	8	8
Armco	7	7
Armstrng Wrld	33	33
Asarco	23	23
Ashland Oil	29	28
Atl Richfield	115	114
Auto Data Pro	54	54
Avery Dennison	27	27
Avon Products	64	64
Baker Hughes	23	23
Baltim Gas & El	25	25
Banc One	53	57
BankAmerica	52	53
Bank of NY	56	57
Bankers Tr NY	72	72
Barnett Banks	47	47
Bausch & Lomb	56	56
Baxter Intl	30	30
Becton Dickinsn	36	36
Bell Atlantic	52	52
BellSouth	54	53
Black & Decker	18	18
Block (H&R)	38	38
Boeing	35	35
Boise Cascade	25	25
Borden Inc	26	26
Bristol Myrs Sq	57	57
Browning Ferris	27	28
Burlington Nthn	50	51
CBS	204	204
CNA Financial	92	92
CPC Intl	48	48
CSX	69	71
Campbell Soup	44	43
Can Pacific	14	14
Cpl Cities ABC	511	508
Cpl Holdings	78	78
Carolina Pwr	31	31
Caterpillar	58	57
Central & SW	31	32
Champion Intl	30	30
Chase Manhat	34	34
Chemical Bk	42	42
Chevron Corp	77	77
Chrysler	38	38
Chubb Corp	90	91
Cigna Corp	60	60
Citicorp	28	28
Clorox	50	49
Coastal Corp	25	25
Coca Cola	42	42
Colgate-Palmolive	64	65
Columbia Gas	22	22
Commonw Ed	26	27
Compaq Comp	51	51
Comp Ass Intl	25	25
Conagra	28	28
Cons Edison	35	35
Cons Nat Gas	46	46
Cons Rail	56	57
Cooper Inds	53	53
Corning Inc	33	34
Crown Cork	39	39
Dana Corp	46	46
Dayton Hudson	79	79
Deere	55	55
Delta Air Lines	49	50
Deluxe Corp	42	42
Detroit Edison	34	35
Digital Equip	46	46
Dillard Dept St	44	44
Disney (Walt)	45	44
Dominion Res	42	42
Donnelley (RR)	29	29
Dover Corp	48	48
Dow Chemicals	55	55
Dow Jones	33	33
Dresser	19	18
Duke Power	37	38
Dun & Bradstreet	59	59
Du Pont	46	46
Eastman Kodak	53	53
Eaton Corp	85	84

	Mar 15 midday	Mar 12 close
Emerson Elec	59	59
Engelhard Corp	41	41
Enron Corp	59	59
Entergy Corp	35	35
Ethyl Corp	20	20
Exxon	63	62
FMC Corp	47	47
FPL Group	37	38
Federal Express	57	55
Fed Nat Mtge	81	82
First Chicago	43	44
First Interstate	56	55
First Union Rlty	11	11
Fleet Fnl Grp	37	37
Fluor Corp	43	44
Ford Motor	49	48
GTE Corp	35	36
Gannett	51	51
Gap Inc Del	33	33
Gen Cinema	35	35
Gen Dynamics	116	115
Gen Electric	86	86
Gen Mills	72	72
Gen Motors	39	38
Gen Reinsurance	119	116
Gen Signal	64	64
Genuine Parts	33	33
Georgia Pac	64	63
Gillette	61	60
Glaxo ADR	18	19
Goodrich (BF)	46	45
Goodyear Tire	74	74
Grace (WR)	38	38
Gt Atl Pac Tea	23	23
Great Wstn Fin	18	18
Halliburton	35	35
Heinz (HJ)	41	42
Hercules	74	73
Hershey Foods	52	52
Hewlett Packard	77	77
Hilton Hotels	48	48
Home Depot	64	64
Homestake	12	12
Honeywell	32	32
Household Intl	69	69
Houston Inds	46	46
Humana	8	7
ITT Corp	77	78
Illinois Tool	74	74
INCO	23	23
Ingersoll Rand	32	32
Inland Steel	22	22
Intel Corp	117	117
IBM	55	55
Intl Flav & Fr	115	116
Intl Paper	64	64
James River Va	18	18
Jhnsn & Jhnsn	43	43
K Mart	24	25
Kellogg	65	66
Kerr-McGee	46	46
Kimberly-Clark	56	50
Knight-Ridder	57	57
Lilly (Eli)	51	51
Limited Inc	24	24
LIN Brdcstng	82	83
Lincoln Nat	76	76
Litton	51	52
Liz Claiborne	35	35
Lockheed Corp	60	60
Louisiana Pac	71	69
MCI Commun	42	42
Marriott	27	26
Marsh & McLan	93	92
Martin Marietta	71	71
Masco Corp	33	34
May Dept St	76	76
Maytag Corp	14	14
McCaw Cellular	35	36
McDonalds	51	51
McDonnell D	55	55
McGraw Hill	60	60
Mead Corp	43	43
Medtronic	78	78
Mellon Bk	60	59
Melville Corp	47	47
Merck Inc	38	39
Merrill Lynch	73	71
Minnesota Mine	108	109
Mobil Corp	67	66
Monsanto	53	53
Morgan (JP)	68	68
Motorola Inc	64	64
Natl Medical	9	9
Natl Semi	13	13
Natl Service Ind	25	25
Navistar Inr	2	2
NBD Bancorp	35	35
NY Times A	29	29
Newmont Mng	40	39
Niag Mohawk	21	21
Nike B	75	71
NL Industries	4	4
Nordstrom	32	32
Norfolk Sthn	63	64
Nthn State Pwr	46	46
Norwest Corp	31	30
Nynex Corp	88	87
Occidental Pet	20	20
Ohio Edison	24	24

	Mar 15 midday	Mar 12 close
Oracle Systems	34	34
Oryx Energy Co	22	22
PNC Financial	32	33
PPG Industries	66	67
Paccar Inc	62	65
Pacificorp	17	17
Pac Enterprises	22	22
Pac Gas & Elect	34	34
Pac Telesis	47	47
Pall Corp	17	17
Panhandle East	21	21
Paramnt Comm	49	49
Parker Hannifin	31	32
Penney (JC)	83	84
Pennzoil	55	55
Pepsico	40	40
Pfizer	62	62
Phelps Dodge	50	51
Philadel Elec	29	29
Philip Morris	64	65
Phillips Pet	28	27
Pitney Bowes	41	41
Polaroid	28	28
Price Co	34	33
Primerica	49	49
Procter & Gmbl	52	53
Pub Serv E & G	32	32
Quaker Oats	65	66
Ralston Purina	50	50
Raychem Corp	41	41
Raytheon	56	56
Reebok Intl	36	36
Reynolds Metals	51	50
Roadway Srvcs	63	63
Rockwell Intl	29	29
Rohm & Haas	56	57
Royal Dutch	85	84
Rubbermaid	33	33
Safeco Corp	61	62
St Paul's Cos	80	80
Salomon Inc	39	40
Santa Fe S Pac	13	13
Sara Lee Corp	29	30
Scecorp	48	48
Schering Plough	59	60
Schlumberger	57	58
Scott Paper	39	38
Seagram	27	27
Sears Roebuck	51	52
Shell Trans	50	50
Sherwin Wlms	31	32
Skyline Corp	21	21
Snap-On-Tools	33	33
Southern Co	40	40
Sthwestern Bell	72	71
Sprint Corp	29	29
Stanley Works	42	42
Sun Company	27	27
Suntrust	47	47
Supervalu	32	33
Syntex Corp	19	19
Sysco Corp	26	26
TRW Inc	60	59
Tandem Comp	13	13
Tandy Corp	26	26
Telecom Corp	2	2
Teledyne	22	21
Temple Inland	49	49
Tenneco	45	46
Texaco	62	61
Texas Inst	61	62
Texas Utilities	44	44
Textron	44	44
Time Warner	35	35
Times-Mirror	33	34
Timken	28	28
Torchmark	60	60
Toys R Us	40	41
Transamerica	49	49
Travelers Corp	26	27
Tribune	55	55
Tyco Labs	45	46
UAL Corp	116	116
UST Inc	29	28
USX Marathon	19	19
Unilever NV	115	115
Union Camp	43	43
Union Carbide	17	17
Union Pacific	58	59
Unisys Corp	13	13
USAIR Group	16	16
USF&G Corp	13	13
US Life	39	38
US West	41	40
United Tech	46	46
Unocal Corp	26	26
Upjohn	28	28
VF Corp	54	53
Wal-Mart Stores	33	33
Warner-Lambert	68	67
Waste Mgmnt Inc	38	38
Wells Fargo	108	107
Westinghouse El	13	13
Weyerhaeuser	41	41
Whirlpool	53	52
Whitman	14	14
Winn Dixie	69	70
Woolworth	30	30
Wrigley (Wm) Jr	33	33
Xerox	82	82

RECENT ISSUES

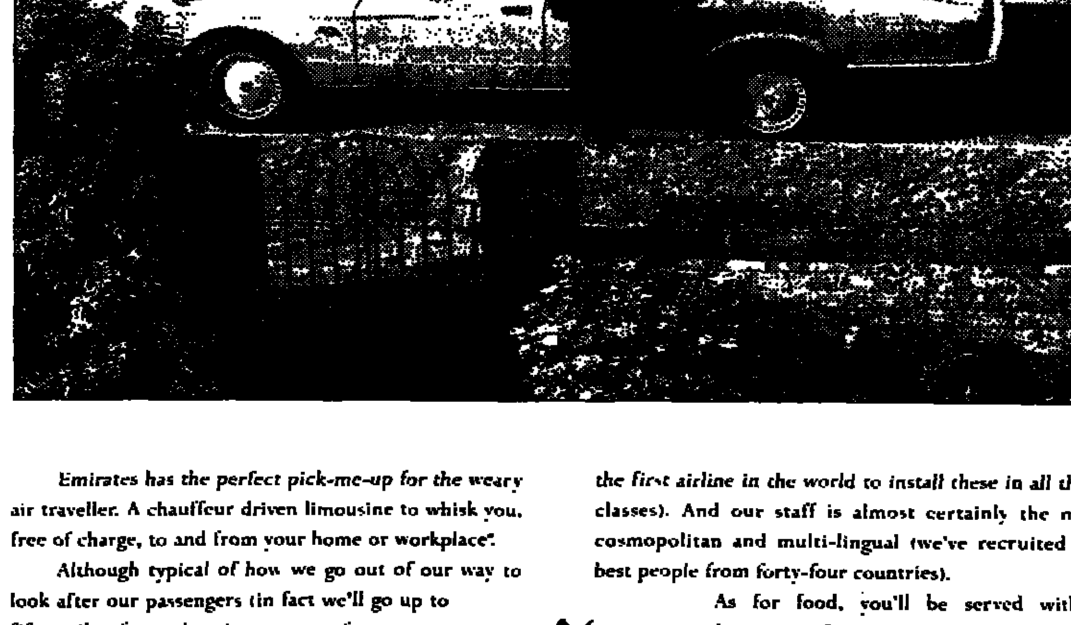
Anglo United Wts	½	...
For & Col US Slr Co (100)	*102½*	+ ½
For & Col US Slr Wts	41	...
Intl Food Machinery (51)	75	+2
Merlin Intl Green Units	95	...
Motor World (210)	278	...
Pilot Inv Trust (100)	97½	...
Pilot Inv Wts	27	...
Schroder Split Fund (100)	104	...
-do- Split Fund Cap (20)	21	...
-do- Split Zero Div Pf (100)	100½	...
Wts & Value Inv Tst (25)	25¼	...
Yorkshire Food (110)	*134*	+4
RIGHTS ISSUES		
Berkeley Group n/p (295)	50	+6
British Polythene n/p (405)	66	...
Cookson n/p (170)	17	-1
Gold Grnls Trott n/p (239)	40	...
Howden Group n/p (52)	13	-1
Menvier-Swain n/p (520)	42	...
Stonehill Hldgs A n/p (10)	2	...
Trafalgar House n/p (60)	13	-5

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:	
Hoskins Brew	53p (+10p)
Whitbread 'A'	492p (+12p)
Transfer Tech	558p (+33p)
Wolseley	584p (+18p)
Sun Alliance	350p (+11p)
Watmough	620p (+15p)
Derwent Holdings	353p (+18p)
Frogmore	363p (+13p)
Hammerson 'A'	361p (+26p)
MEPC	393p (+12p)
Guinness	480p (+10p)
Meyer Int	312p (+14p)
RMC Group	588p (+12p)
Redland	455p (+10p)
HSBC	624p (+20p)
FALLS:	
Nat West	438p (-12p)
Rowlinson Secs	115p (-10p)
Aus New Zealand	162p (-14p)
SKF 'B'	725p (-25p)
Liberty Life	969p (-39p)

Closing Prices Page 29

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LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES 071-782 7344

LEGAL NOTICES

ACCRAPRIDE LIMITED
VOLGABROOK LIMITED
CENTRAL INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY MANAGEMENT (CHEMICAL DIVISION) LTD
C.I.P.M. (GALLERY) LIMITED
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of The Insolvency Act, 1986, that Meetings of the creditors of the above-named Companies will be held at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co., situated at 30 Eastbourne Terrace, (2nd Floor), London, W2 6LF, on Monday, the 29th day of March, 1993 at 10.31 am, 10.33 am, 10.35 am, and 10.37 am, respectively, for the purposes provided for in Section 98 et seq.
A list of names and addresses of the above Companies' Creditors can be inspected at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co., 30 Eastbourne Terrace, London, W2 6LF, between the hours of 10.00 am and 4.00 pm on the two business days preceding the Meetings of Creditors.
Dated the 12th day of March 1993
W P MIRO, Director.

AIREDALE HOLDINGS PLC
(In Administrative Receivership)
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Section 48 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a meeting of the creditors of the above named company will be held at 20 Old Bailey, London, EC4M 7BH on the 30th day of March 1993 at 11.00 hours for the purposes mentioned in Section 48 and 49 of the said Act.
A creditor is entitled to vote at this meeting only if:
(a) he has forwarded to the Joint Administrative Receivers, Mr PWG DuBuisson and Mr P R Sykes of BDO Binder Hamlyn, 20 Old Bailey, London, EC4M 7BH, not later than 12.00 hours on the 29th day of March 1993 details in writing of the debt that he claims to be due to him from the above named company, and the claim has been duly admitted for the purpose of entitlement to vote, and
(b) there has been lodged with the Joint Administrative Receivers any proxy which the creditor intends to be used on his behalf.
PWG DuBuisson
Joint Administrative Receiver

ASM Contracts Limited
In Administrative Receivership
Registered Number: 0972434
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 48 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a general meeting of the unsecured creditors of the above-named company will be held at 8 Baker Street, London W1M 1DA on 26 March 1993 at 11.00 hrs for the purpose of having a report laid before the meeting and of hearing any explanation that may be given by the Administrative Receivers. Creditors whose claims are wholly secured are not entitled to attend or be represented.
Please note that a creditor is entitled to vote only if he has delivered to the Administrative Receivers at Stoy Hayward, 8 Baker Street, London W1M 1DA, not later than 12.00 hrs on 25 March 1993 details in writing of the debt claimed to be due from the company, and the claim has been duly admitted under the provisions of The Insolvency Rules 1986 and there has been lodged with the Administrative Receivers any proxy which the creditor intends to be used on his behalf.
G A Auger
Joint Administrative Receiver

Company No: 2649011
TEXLAND LIMITED
(IN LIQUIDATION)
I, IAN DAVID HOLLAND, FCA of PITMAN COHEN, Great Central House, Station Approach, South Ruislip, Middlesex, HA4 0JA, was appointed Liquidator of the above-named Company on the 10th March 1993 by the Members and Creditors
Dated this 10th day of March 1993.
I.D. HOLLAND, LIQUIDATOR.

THE INSOLVENCY RULES 1986
PROJECT MANAGEMENT SHOP LIMITED
Notice is hereby given that Geoffrey Christopher Anthony Morphitis of Cape and Dalgleish, 401 St John Street, London EC1V 4LH was appointed Liquidator of the above named on 1 March 1993
GCA Morphitis, Liquidator.

Case No. 848 of 1993
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
LEEDS DISTRICT REGISTRY
IN THE MATTER OF CALDWELL INVESTMENTS PUBLIC LIMITED COMPANY
AND IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Order of the High Court of Justice (Chancery Division) dated the 26th February 1993 confirming the reduction of the Share Premium Account of the above named Company from £863,004.00 to £263,856 and the Minute approved by the Court showing with respect to the Share Premium Account of the Company as altered the several particulars required by the above mentioned Act were registered by the Registrar of Companies on 3rd March 1993.
Dated this 12 day of March 1993
Lupton Fawcett of Yorkshire House, Greek Street, Leeds LS1 5SX
Solicitors for the above-named Company

COMFORTOAK LIMITED
TANDEMLYN LIMITED
BORISBAY LIMITED
CADES PROPERTIES LTD
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of The Insolvency Act, 1986, that Meetings of the creditors of the above-named Companies will be held at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co., situated at 30 Eastbourne Terrace, (2nd Floor), London, W2 6LF, on Monday, the 29th day of March, 1993 at 10.09 am, 10.11 am, 10.13 am, and 10.15 am, respectively, for the purposes provided for in Section 98 et seq.
A list of names and addresses of the above Companies' Creditors can be inspected at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co., 30 Eastbourne Terrace, London, W2 6LF, between the hours of 10.00 am and 4.00 pm on the two business days preceding the Meetings of Creditors.
Dated the 12th day of March 1993
W.P. MIRO, Director

CONNAUGHT ELECTRICAL SERVICES LIMITED
(IN LIQUIDATION)
Take notice that the undersigned, Alan D Kenningham of Haines Watts Insolvency Services, 81 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8PP, was appointed Liquidator of Connaught Electrical Services Limited, by a resolution of a meeting of the company's creditors held on the 26th day of February 1993.
Dated this 4th day of March 1993.
Alan D Kenningham, Liquidator.

COURAGELINK LIMITED
THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
In accordance with Rule 4.106 of The Insolvency Rules 1986 notice is hereby given that I, Peter S Dunn FCA, a Licensed Insolvency Practitioner of Latham Crossley & Davis, 7 Kenrick Place, London W1H 3FF, was appointed Liquidator of the above Company by the Creditors on 9th March 1993
DATED this 9th March 1993
Peter S Dunn FCA, Liquidator.

ELITEGRADE LIMITED
(T/A VICTORIA PARK HOTEL)
Registered Number: 2287887
Trading Name: Victoria Park Hotel. Nature of Business: Hotel. Trade Classification: 47. Date of Appointment of Joint Administrative Receivers: 9 March 1993
Name of Person Appointing the Joint Administrative Receivers: FennoScandia Bank Limited.
Joint Administrative Receivers: S V Freakley & L A Manning, (office holder numbers: 8291 & 6477) of: Buchler Phillips & Co., 84 Grosvenor Street, London W1X 9DF.

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
GALESTAR LIMITED
(In Administrative Receivership)
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a Meeting of the Creditors of the above-named Company will be held at The Railway Hotel, Station Lane, Hornchurch, Essex on Thursday 18th March 1993 at 3.00 pm for the purposes mentioned in Sections 100 and 101 of the said Act and Rule 4.53 of the Insolvency Rules 1986.
Dated this 22nd January 1993
BY ORDER OF THE BOARD
L Cheeseman, Director.

J.M. Reynolds Development Co. Ltd.
The Insolvency Act 1986
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that Creditors of the above named company, which is being voluntarily wound up, are required, on or before the 16th April 1993, to send their full christian and surnames, their addresses and descriptions, full particulars of their debt or claim and the names and addresses of their Solicitors (if any), to the undersigned Jamie Taylor, of Messrs. Taylor Gotham, Warren House, 10-20 Main Road, Hockley, Essex SS5 4RY, the Liquidator of the said company, and, if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidator, are, personally or by their Solicitors, to come in and prove their debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.
Dated 6th March 1993
Jamie Taylor, Joint Liquidator

J.M. REYNOLDS DEVELOPMENT COMPANY LIMITED
The Insolvency Act 1986
This is to certify that a meeting of the Creditors and Contributories of the above-named Company held on Friday 5th March 1993 Jamie Taylor of Messrs. Taylor Gotham, Warren House, 10/20 Main Road, Hockley, Essex SS5 4RY, and Adrian Stanway of Messrs. Cork Gully, St. Andrews House, 20 St. Andrew Street, London, EC4A 3AD having provided written statements that they are qualified to act as an insolvency practitioner in relation to the above-named Company under the provisions of the Insolvency Act 1986, and that they consent so to act, were appointed joint liquidators of the Company.
THE JOINT LIQUIDATORS ARE EMPOWERED TO ACT TOGETHER OR BY ANYONE OF THEM ALONE.
Dated the 5th March 1993
James Michael Reynolds
(Chairman)

LOAMBECK LIMITED
C.I.P.M. (LEASING) LIMITED
PRIORYDELL LTD, CENTRAL AND INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT LTD
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of The Insolvency Act, 1986, that Meetings of the creditors of the above-named Companies will be held at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co., situated at 30 Eastbourne Terrace, (2nd Floor), London, W2 6LF, on Monday, the 29th day of March, 1993 at 10.01 am, 10.03 am, 10.05 am, and 10.07 am, respectively, for the purposes provided for in Section 98 et seq.
A list of names and addresses of the above Companies' Creditors can be inspected at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co., 30 Eastbourne Terrace, London, W2 6LF, between the hours of 10.00 am and 4.00 pm on the two business days preceding the Meetings of Creditors.
Dated the 12th day of March 1993
W.P. MIRO, Director.

RICHARD REID AND ASSOCIATES LTD
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of The Insolvency Act, 1986, that a Meeting of the creditors of the above-named Company will be held at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co., situated at 30 Eastbourne Terrace, (2nd Floor), London, W2 6LF, on Tuesday, the 23rd day of March, 1993 at 10.30 am for the purposes provided for in Section 98 et seq.
A list of names and addresses of the above Company's Creditors can be inspected at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co., 30 Eastbourne Terrace, London, W2 6LF, between the hours of 10.00 am and 4.00 pm on the two business days preceding the Meeting of Creditors.
Dated the 9th day of March 1993
RICHARD REID, Director.

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
STANDEN HOMES LIMITED
(In Administrative Receivership)
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 48 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a meeting of the creditors of the company will be held at the STAKIS VICTORIA HOTEL, MILTON STREET, NOTTINGHAM, on the 5th day of April 1993 at 12.00 noon for the purpose of considering a report on the events leading up to the appointment of joint receivers, progress in the receivership, and to elect a committee to represent the creditors.
Dated this 12th day of MARCH 1993
RJ REES FCA
Joint Administrative Receiver
NOTES
1. A creditor will be entitled to vote at the meeting only if details of the amount claimed to be due from the company have been lodged with me at PRICE WATERHOUSE, VICTORIA HOUSE, 76 MILTON STREET, NOTTINGHAM NG1 3QY no later than 12.00 noon on 2 April 1993 and the claim has been admitted in accordance with the Insolvency Rules 1986.
2. A company may vote either through a representative producing a certified copy of a board resolution appointing him, or by proxy. A form of proxy is included herewith. Proxies should be lodged with me by 12.00 noon on 2 April 1993.
3. A secured creditor is entitled to vote only in respect of the balance (if any) of his debt after deducting the value of his security as estimated by him. He must lodge in accordance with note 1 a statement giving the particulars of his security, the date when it was given and the value at which he assesses it. Creditors who are wholly secured are not entitled to be represented or to vote.

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
WEDGE CARRIAGEWAYS LTD
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN Pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a MEETING of the CREDITORS of the above named Company will be held on Monday 22nd March 1993 at 4, Charterhouse Square, London EC1M 6EN at 12.00 noon for the purposes mentioned in Section 99 et seq of the said Act.
NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that Maurice Raymond Dorrington, FIPA of 4, Charterhouse Square, London, EC1M 6EN is appointed to act as the qualified Insolvency Practitioner pursuant to Section 98 (2)(a) of the said Act who will furnish Creditors with such information as they may require.
DATED this 11th day of March 1993.
BY ORDER OF THE BOARD
John Armitage, Director.

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
COLVILLE CLASSICS LTD
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a Meeting of the Creditors of the above-named Company will be held at Gable House, 239 Regents Park Road, London N3 3LF on Monday the 29th day of March, 1993 at 10.30 o'clock in the forenoon for the purposes mentioned in Sections 99, 100 and 101 of the said Act.
Any information required by the Creditors concerning the Company's affairs may be obtained from D.L. PLATT., of Sorsky's Specialised Financial Services, Gable House, 239 Regents Park Road, London N3 3LF being a person qualified to act as an Insolvency Practitioner
DATED this 15th day of March, 1993.
BY ORDER OF THE BOARD
T. Middlehurst, DIRECTOR.

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
PLAZADALE LTD t/a THE WATERSPLASH HOTEL and IL GIARDINO RESTAURANT
(IN LIQUIDATION)
TAKE NOTICE THAT I, Nigel John Hamilton-Smith of Mortlock Thornton & Co., Torrington House, 47 Holywell Hill, St Albans, Hertfordshire AL1 1HD was appointed Liquidator of Plazadale Limited by a Resolution of a Meeting of the company's creditors held on 8 March 1993.
DATED this 12th day of March 1993
N J Hamilton-Smith, Liquidator.

The Insolvency Act 1986
MANSWORTH LIMITED
(In Liquidation)
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that John Colin Shuttleworth of Shuttleworth & Co., 20 Hillcroft, Loughton, Essex IG10 2PS was appointed Liquidator of the said Company by the Creditors on 10th March 1993.
Dated this 11th day of March 1993.
J. C. Shuttleworth, Liquidator

PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICES

CHARITY COMMISSION
Charity - Mrs. Marjorie Allison Padgham deceased
The Commissioners propose to make a Scheme for this charity. A copy of the draft Scheme can be obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to St. Alban's House, 57/60 Haymarket, London, SW1Y 4QX quoting reference DGY-158795-CD8(Ldn3). Comments or representations can be made within one month from today.

MMC INQUIRY INTO THE BRITISH WATERWAYS BOARD

The Monopolies and Mergers Commission have been asked to look into whether the British Waterways Board (BWB) could, in carrying out its functions under the relevant legislation, improve its efficiency, reduce costs and improve quality.

Anyone wishing to obtain a copy of the full terms of reference or to submit evidence should write to: The Reference Secretary (BWB), Monopolies and Mergers Commission, New Court, 48 Carey Street, London WC2A 2JT. [Fax: 071-324 1400]. Any evidence should be submitted as soon as possible.

For Clinton's version of free trade, read the small print

Wolfgang Münchau says Europe should note that the presidential advisers' views range from liberalism to outright protectionism

Despite the surprising sure-footedness in its general economic policy, the Clinton administration has displayed distinct signs of wobble when it comes to trade. It may not affect the approval ratings, but it worries America's trading partners none the less.

Yesterday's qualified endorsement of British Airways' ambitions to widen its business activities in the US may be interpreted as a sign of goodwill, but not so last Friday's cancellation of conciliation talks with the EC to solve a federal procurement dispute in the telecommunications sector. The president's accusations against Europe's Airbus consortium contained no sign of goodwill; and what does one make of his subsequent retraction, that he did not mean it the way he had said it? Or of the widely leaked proposed clampdowns on foreign utility vehicles and minivans?

Officially, nothing has changed. President Clinton has underlined his endorsement of free trade in a recent speech, calling on Americans to "compete not retreat". The rhetoric was typically grand, but one would do well to beware of the small print.

Small print is not the stuff of presidents but of advisers, and here one detects all sorts of conflicting shades of grey inside the administration, ranging from trade liberalism to outright protectionism.

In between are the "moderate free traders", a construction almost worth including in the dictionary of the politically correct, and then there are the trade sceptics. The problem is that the president endorses the concept of free trade in principle but he is surrounded by advisers who do not necessarily see eye to eye on this issue, and proffer conflicting advice.

The internal debate in the administration is perhaps best illustrated by a series of exchanges that took place less than two years ago between two of the president's most trusted lieutenants, Robert Reich, now the labour secretary, and Laura D'Andrea Tyson, who chairs the president's council of economic advisers.

In his much-acclaimed book, *The Work of Nations*, Dr Reich defended an open trading system and described how the US government pandered to the special interests of the country's large corporations, and how these corporations sought protective walls to cover up their own shortcomings.

He wrote: "It was said that foreigners were 'dumping' their wares in the United States — a term conjuring up images of huge piles of substandard consumer durables and cheap novelty items littering American beaches. In fact, dumping described nothing more than foreign producers acting exactly as would any self-respecting competitor who wished to sell in large quantity: offer a cut-rate price from the very first sale onward, sometimes even taking a loss in anticipation of making money later after gaining scale efficiencies."



Cautious activist: Laura D'Andrea Tyson, Mr Clinton's adviser

These words, uttered in the context of an intellectual treatise on economic policy and not during a stormy cabinet session, may come to haunt him in the light of future US trade policy, which may look nothing like his own vision at all.

In an article in *The American Prospect*, an academic policy journal, Ms Tyson presented a highly critical review of the book, especially on the chapter on trade. She called Dr Reich's assertion that business was already so international that trade sanctions would return like a boomerang "at best premature".

She added that "the economic fate of nations is still tied closely to the success of the domestically based corporations... Many foreign markets are highly regulated, often to America's disadvantage. Consequently, America cannot just foster the best possible workforce and then rely on market forces to bring high-wage jobs to our shores". Ms Tyson went on to explain that "trade friction between the US and its trading partners is a major reason for the substantial foreign investment in America's consumer electronics and automobile industries". The same principle, incidentally, has also been at work in Europe.

Dr Reich's response was one of dismay. In an article in the same journal, he complained: "I found myself the recipient of expressions of shock and outrage from several fellow industrial-policy travellers who accused me of abandoning the worthy cause. And now to deepen my gloom, comes Laura Tyson."

But for those spirited free traders there is more gloom to come. For Ms Tyson is not your typical whingeing Democrat protectionist, but an academic who has spent a considerable part of her career trying to prove rigorously that upholding the maxim of free trade can be damaging to the American economy under certain circumstances.

Her essential contention is that the neoclassical free trade theory does not hold true in every situation. The theory says broadly that a country is better off if it upholds the principles of free trade even if its trading partners do not. Ms Tyson's central contention is that while this may be true in general, it does not apply to every industry, and especially not to high-technology industries, which are characterised by massive government intervention, long-term research and development programmes and high barriers to entry.

And it is here that the shades of grey enter. A clue to what may happen lies in her own book on this issue, aptly named *Who's bashing Whom? Trade Conflict in High Technology Industries*. She distinguishes between free traders and moderate free traders, and sceptics. "A dwindling number of economists and very few policy makers espouse the traditional free trade arguments as an overall prescription for US trade policy," she claims. Instead they fall into the category of "moderate" free traders, which means free traders in the context of an "ideal world" but not in the real world. In a frank statement on this issue she declares that she belongs in neither of these two, but to a third category, that of the "cautious activists". "My trade policy agenda is a defensive one," she writes. "I recommend that the nation's trade laws be used to deter or compensate for foreign practices that are not adequately regulated by existing multilateral laws." Thus speaks President's Clinton chief economic adviser. Cautious activism, she says, is not synonymous with protectionism, the darkest shade in this curious spectrum of greys.

The most important point about Ms Tyson's policy prescription is the link between industrial policy and trade policy. This is reflected in the president's aggressive rhetoric towards Europe's Airbus consortium. He acknowledges that Airbus has damaged Boeing and McDonnell Douglas, the two indigenous aircraft makers, and is therefore under pressure "to do something". On the other hand, Airbus serves almost as a role model for the new administration's own industrial policy. The Democrats' obsession with Airbus belies a deep-down admiration, namely that you can buck the markets, spend billions for more than 20 years and still be successful.

So where does this leave future US trade policy? Mr Clinton's rhetoric is of little help here, especially so since his words tend to be tailored to the specific audience he addresses.

The administration will eventually have to come clean on its trade policy, and an early test will be the talks to reach a supplementary deal on the North American Free Trade Agreement (Nafta). These talks begin tomorrow but Congressional leaders have already warned that the treaty is "in serious trouble", and Mickey Kantor, the US trade representative, even threatened "to walk away from the table", if the US does not get what it wants.

His words may be characteristic of America's strongman approach to trade policy. In substance, it will resemble Ms Tyson's "cautious activism", but it will not bear that name. This is where Robert Reich comes in. The policy will come to be known as "free trade".

TEMPUS

Time to tighten a little

MONTHLY manufacturing figures are notoriously volatile, but news of a 0.8 per cent jump in output in January is an important piece of ammunition for Norman Lamont if, as many suspect, he is planning to deliver a package of fiscal tightening measures this afternoon. Coupled with the strong rise in retail sales in January, these are the surest signs yet that the successive cuts in interest rates are taking effect and the economy is improving.

The Treasury's assumption may well be that this recovery is sufficiently robust to withstand a judicious, and heavily disguised, package of tax increases. The equity market will watch most closely to see where any increases in indirect taxes will fall. The Chancellor can raise perhaps £2 billion from VAT and excise duty increases without endangering the 4 per cent inflation target.

The burden is likely to fall most heavily on the motor sector as Mr Lamont gave notice in his Autumn Statement. Petrol and vehicle excise duties are both likely to rise. This should not hurt the recovery in car sales too badly, since the autumn tax cut is still making car prices look attractive.

Other sectors of the stock market, notably media and food retailing, have been suffering for more than a month over fears that the VAT base will be widened, and shares have largely assumed the worst. Expect an immediate bounce if the Chancellor takes no action.

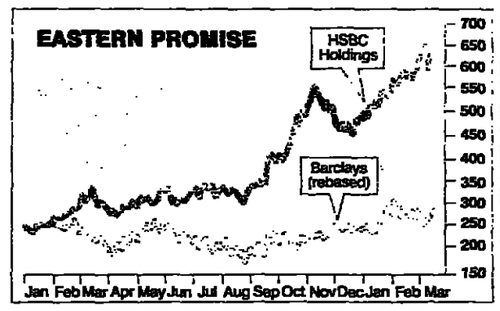
The market as a whole is likely to welcome a fiscally tight Budget, particularly if it is combined with some commitment to another base rate cut, and an indication that the PSBR would not, in any case, have been quite so bad as feared. All these will allay remaining fears of funding difficulties later in the year, which is the main factor preventing long gilt yields falling below 8 per cent.

HSBC

INVESTORS should be thankful that HSBC was forced to provide almost £300 million against Olympia & York last year. It should remind the bank's management that it is as prone to mistakes as its rivals, and encourage caution.

None of the many ways of looking at HSBC's 1992 figures disguises the powerful growth in the Hong Kong business and rapid recovery elsewhere. Even on a pro-forma basis in Hong Kong dollars, which ignores the effects of sterling's devaluation, earnings rose 92 per cent to HK$5.72.

The picture would change if the Hong Kong economy slowed. The Asia Pacific region still provides more than three quarters of profits. Underlying bad debt provisions were only 0.3 per cent of assets while the return on assets was 2.1 per cent in the region. Such a banking return may not be sustainable, but earnings growth of up to a fifth is possible in the region this year if the Hong Kong economy continues to expand at more than 5 per cent. Coupled with further recovery in Britain and America, the group could produce earnings of 60p this year, a 22 per cent rise. The shares have outperformed the sector wildly since devaluation, but are still not overpriced on a near-5 per cent forward yield.



Rugby Group

RUGBY Group is an atypical specimen to start this year's building materials reporting season. It has cash in the bank, a well-covered dividend and a cautious approach to corporate life which has helped the group weather the unprecedented severity of the latest of many downturns in the industry.

The decline in profits from the British cement operations last year was counterbalanced by strong improvements overseas to leave a flat profits outturn which shows that even the best-run building materials producer can do little to cushion itself from the slump.

There are signs that the industry may be seeing the last of the price freezes: sterling's depreciation is pushing up the price of imported raw materials and other parts of the industry are in no shape to absorb a further assault on margins. Meanwhile, the group has a potentially useful third leg to its traditional cement and joinery operations, the Ward structural steel business bought for a pittance in the company's most daring corporate move of recent years.

Rugby's shares fell from favour last autumn as the market's fancy turned to more cyclical stocks and away from such a defensive play, although they still sell on about 15 times possible 1994 earnings.

The coming results season should again highlight their attractions.

Amersham

IN its first share issue since its spectacular privatisation in 1982, Amersham International is filling a missing link in its research chain. But the deal, which cleverly adds DNA sequencing to Amersham's labelling and detection products, has its price. At $69 million, United States Biochemical Corporation is being bought at 19 times earnings and on a 2,500 per cent premium to net assets.

This ignores the valuable patents associated with the Sequenase enzyme and related biological processes. By issuing £33 million of shares to the vendors, Amersham neutralises the impact of the goodwill writeoff and of taking on $6.5 million of USBC's debt. The long-term aim is to automate research into how DNA changes cause auto-immune diseases. Shareholders must hope they benefit more from this than from Amerlite, the diagnostic business, which proved so expensive to develop that it had to be sold to Eastman Kodak in 1990.

ECC

One indication of the many bid stories rumbling around the building materials sector is that English China Clays feels obliged to make a commitment to maintain this year's dividend, when the 1992 payout was covered only 1.09 times; especially since it admits that European markets are unlikely to show much progress.

At least ECC, with gearing of only 21 per cent and an improving American business, can afford such a promise. Not all building materials groups are able to mount such a pre-emptive defence.

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Clearout at Barings

CHRISTOPHER Heath, who three years ago was Britain's highest-paid executive with annual earnings approaching £3 million, was yesterday clearing his desk in the chairman's office at Baring Securities. One of five senior executives fired, Heath was forced last September to accept reduced responsibilities after disastrous losses in Japan and a disagreement with Baring Brothers, the merchant banking parent, over expansion. Heath, 46, who masterminded Baring Securities' expansion into Japan only to see his dream turn sour with the collapse of the Japanese stock market, seems to have had nothing but bad luck. On the same day he was forced to announce 108 redundancies, he also learnt that his responsibilities as chairman were being reduced and that Peter Norris was being brought in from Baring Brothers to become chief operating officer. Then on Boxing Day, Samantha Baring, his 24-year-old girlfriend, left him to accept a marriage proposal in Dubai from old Etonian Sean Shelley. His divorce from Maggie, his wife of 11 years, is still pending. Meanwhile, Peter Morris was yesterday appointed chief executive, while Miles Rivett-Carnac comes out of retirement to take over as chairman. Four senior colleagues who supported Heath against too much intervention from Baring Brothers have also gone. They are Andrew Bayliss, head of derivatives; Vanessa Gibson, head of Asia in Hong Kong; Jim Reid, head of US in New York and Ian Martin, finance director.

Racing double

EUAN Worthington, a director of Warburg's mining department and a noted follower of RTZ, neatly made it back to London from a two-week mining visit around Australia just ahead of two important events in his life: Publication of RTZ's results, and the birth of a third child. In what is beginning to look like a regular biennial race between the Worthingtons and RTZ, the mining group emerges as this year's winner. RTZ produced its annual results on Thursday; Worthington's wife, Sarah, is, meanwhile, poised to give birth to their third child. In September, 1991, at the time of RTZ's interim results, their son and heir was born just after RTZ's results day.

Care call

WANTED: Persuasive City altruists capable of dreaming up new ways of convincing the more cynical among them to open their chequebooks for international relief aid and Third World development. Care, the largest relief charity in the world, is setting up a Care City Committee to attract volunteers from the Square Mile. Simon Taylor-Young, an assistant director of corporate stockbroking at NatWest WoodMac, has joined Liz Kirkham of Care to organise an "inaugural" meeting of the new committee tomorrow at 6:30pm in the boardroom of Ernst & Young's Rolls Building on Fetter Lane. Knowledge of the City's intricate workings, and a fat contacts book, would clearly not be a disadvantage.



Taurus revisited

MUCH of British industry supported the Stock Exchange's ill-fated Taurus settlement system, but few, it seems, were more bullish than Heywood Williams, the west Yorkshire glass distributor. Shareholders in the company were amused yesterday to receive an upbeat, glossy promotional leaflet telling them how much they would benefit from the new system and how it "will have been rigorously tested before it comes into use". Ronald Sansom, a Heywood shareholder for 30 years, said: "As you could imagine, I was somewhat tickled to find this with my annual report." The leaflet was sent out by Heywood on Friday morning. "We knew about the collapse on Thursday night, but it was too late to stop the mailing," a Heywood spokeswoman explained.

MELINDA WITTSTOCK

Stop loss delays threaten Lloyd's

From Mr John Strafford

Sir, Preliminary figures indicate that the 1990 results at Lloyd's of London will be as bad, if not worse, than those for 1989.

On top of this, there is now another extremely worrying development for names, namely the extreme delays in settlement of stop loss claims. Names are still, in fact, waiting for settlement against calls made last year, and they are now being advised of a strong possibility of similar delays after next July, when the 1990 account is due for settlement.

Names are now being advised that, unless Mr Middleton can resolve this situation within the next two months, they will have no option other than as individuals to go to litigation to recover their legitimate stop loss claims.

Many names would not have joined Lloyd's in the first place without the umbrella of stop loss to cushion their calls at time of due settlement, and now that is being denied them. Names, despite what some may think, do not have unlimited funds, and many are now stretched to the point where they are unable to afford litigation to recover monies from their stop loss insurers against contracts honourably entered into on their part.

They have already enough on their hands covering their calls, subscribing to the various action groups, paying the central levy, and dealing with all the other financial demands that membership of Lloyd's now unfortunately imposes on them.

Unless the syndicates and the stop loss insurers come together to resolve this, potentially, very damaging situation, many names will run out of funds and Lloyd's will lose its capital base.

It is the names who allow Lloyd's to continue to operate by honourably and promptly paying up against each call. It is now the turn of Lloyd's to ensure that the same treatment — no more, no less — is given to them.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN STRAFFORD,
Strangers Drift,
Weston-on-the-Green,
Bicester,
Oxfordshire.

Equality of retirement fringe benefits needed

From Mr David Lea

Sir, Graham Searjeant's excellent article (March 10) about equalisation of the retirement age for state pensions, as between men and women, fails to mention one important aspect: I refer to the discrimination against men, not only with regard to the pension, but the fringe benefits.

In London, for example, a woman who, like myself, is retired from a university post, becomes eligible at the age of 60 not only for her state pension in addition to that from the university's retirement plan but, also, for the very considerable benefit of free travel on London Transport and, of course, additional health service concessions such as exemption from prescription charges. Women retired from the civil service are in the same enviable position.

When can we hope for legislation to give at least the fringe benefits to retired men at the age of 60?

Yours faithfully,
DAVID LEA,
109 Albert Street,
NW1.

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CGS bids for remainder of Hoskyns

Directors say £137m offer is reasonable

BY PHILIP PANGALOS

CAP Gemini Sogeti, the French computer services giant, is taking full control of Hoskyns Group, the British computer services group, through a recommended £136.6 million offer for the remaining 30.7 per cent shareholding it does not aleady own.

CGS's unconditional cash offer is at 469p a share. CGS, which is Europe's biggest computer services company employing 20,000 people worldwide, bought some 69 per cent of Hoskyns from GEC/Siemens in summer 1990, after an unconditional cash offer of 330p a share, and, at that time, said it would offer to buy the remaining shares in 1993.

Under the offer, which is being made by Hoare Govett, Hoskyns shareholders will also receive a final dividend of 1.65p a share, payable on March 16.

Hoskyns directors, who have been advised by Schroders, said they consider the terms of the offer to be "fair and reasonable" and have recommended that shareholders accept the offer.

Geoff Unwin, chairman of Hoskyns and a president of Cap Gemini Sogeti, said: "The majority stake held by Cap Gemini Sogeti in Hoskyns since August 1990 has been of tremendous benefit to both companies. Hoskyns has already seen many of the advantages of being part of Europe's largest computer services group and CGS is benfiting from Hoskyns' expertise, particularly in outsourcing. When the offer has been completed Hoskyns will continue to play a leading role in the global development of CGS."

Most industry experts agree that the move by CGS to mop up the remaining shares in Hoskyns was a *fait accompli* but some argue that it sees another of Britain's computer companies going into foreign hands, marking the end of yet another chapter for the UK computer services industry. It leaves only the likes of smaller and mid-sized computer service groups quoted, such as Logica, Misys and ACT.

However, Hoskyns stresses that the move was expected and is merely part of the group's ongoing strategy to compete in the European and worldwide market, which has heavyweights such as IBM, Computer Associates, Andersen Consulting and EDS, which now owns Britain's SD-Scicon.

Computer services companies have felt the squeeze, as computer users matured and have taken a tougher line towards budgets as the recession forced more customers to secure greater productivity from their existing spending on information technology.

Tony Robinson, joint managing director of Hoskyns, said Hoskyns has been part of CGS for the last couple of years, during which time CGS has been a "strategic assembler" in Europe. "We are now going through a process of strategic integration, co-ordinating about a dozen different companies into one European group able to compete with the other big players. You could look at it as exporting British management and British ideas to Europe," he said.

In a very competitive and, at times, hostile environment, Mr Robinson said there was not yet any significant easing of trading conditions. He said conditions were not getting any worse, but nor were they much easier. "Our revenue and our profits are growing, but that's after much hard work," he added.

Hoskyns shares gained 6p to 464p.



Mutual advantage: Geoff Unwin, Hoskyns' chairman, says the link between the firms since August 1990 has been of tremendous benefit to both

JIB dips in year after flotation

BY SARAH BAGNALL, INSURANCE CORRESPONDENT

FALLING interest rates, a sharp rise in administrative expenses and shrinking capacity in the London reinsurance market resulted in a £2 million drop in 1992 pre-tax profits to £18.2 million at JIB Group.

Shares in the international insurance broker that came to the market in November 1991, advanced 2p to 184p, compared with a flotation price of 195p. The final dividend stays at 5p, for a total of 7.5p, the amount JIB said it would have paid last time had it been a public company for a full year. The actual 1991 payout was 5p.

Rodney Leach, chairman, said 1992 had been a difficult year but that the outlook for 1993 was "encouraging".

Despite a 4 per cent increase in turnover to £176 million for the year to end-December, operating profits fell by a fifth to £18.9 million due to an £11 million rise in expenses to £176 million and lower interest rates, which reduced investment income by £1.2 million to £19.3 million.

Hardest hit were the reinsurance division, which saw profits fall to £7.3 million (£10.7 million), and the Lloyd's members' agency, which lost £1.8 million (£362,000 profit). American losses depressed retail profits 23 per cent to £6.2 million.

Piggott backs plan to spur on Flat racing

BY JON ASHWORTH

RACING enthusiasts with money to spare are being offered an investment scheme with a difference. For £3,600, they can enjoy a season of Flat racing with a couple of nights at a country house hotel thrown in. There is a chance to share in any prize money and they may even catch a glimpse of Lester Piggott.

Racing for Pleasure, as the scheme is known, is a variation on the racing syndicate, in which ten or 20 wealthy punters club together to buy a horse, and split any winnings. The scheme is a step down from a syndicate but a big step up from the teams in which several thousand enthusiasts put £100 or so each.

David Allan, an owner, breeder and bloodstock manager, dreamed up the idea to put some life back into the racing industry.

He has found an enthusiastic supporter in Mr Piggott.

"We're trying to pitch it at a more affordable level," said Mr Allan, whose non-equestrian interests range from a shipping company to Hintlesham Hall, a country house hotel near Ipswich, Suffolk. "Each club has 30 members and owns four horses, two ready to run immediately. At the end of the season, the club is wound up and any proceeds are distributed to the team members."

Mr Allan's company, Allan Bloodlines, takes £300 per team membership as his fee plus 10 per cent of prize money or other surpluses when the club is wound up. Susan Piggott will train some of the horses.

Racing, page 41



Enthusiastic supporters: Susan and Lester Piggott

GM chief pulls out of VW deal

BY COLIN NARBROUGH

GENERAL Motors' purchasing chief, J Ignacio Lopez de Arriortua, who resigned last week to move to Volkswagen, Europe's biggest carmaker, was persuaded over the weekend to stay at GM.

A VW spokesman said Señor Lopez had signed a contract to join the German carmaker this month but had asked not to be held to it. Señor Lopez and VW have agreed to decide within a year on his joining VW later.

The surprise reversal prompted Ferdinand Piëch, VW management board chairman, to attack "continuous intervention" by GM to keep Señor Lopez, who is credited with having pared $1 billion off GM's car components bill, in Detroit.

Herr Piëch had hoped Señor Lopez would help VW to effect an urgently needed improvement in its own cost structure.

VW shares dropped more than DM4 to DM288.50 in Frankfurt on the news.

It is understood Señor Lopez, 52, who was said to have been offered a $15 million contract by VW, was lured back to GM for the second time this year by promotion to executive vice-president.

Share offer by David Lloyd is a smash hit

THE offer for sale of shares in David Lloyd Leisure, the company headed by the former Davis Cup tennis player David Lloyd, was nearly seven times oversubscribed. Most investors will not receive their full applications. Only those who asked for 200 shares will be satisfied in full. But nearly all can look forward to a premium of between 15p and 20p on their 150p shares when dealing starts on Friday, analysts believe.

About 99 per cent of applicants will receive some shares and 44 per cent will receive 50 per cent of what they asked for. People who applied for 400, 500 or 600 shares will receive half their application while people who wanted 800 will receive 300 shares. Applicants for 1,000 will get 350.

Applications for between 1,500 and 5,000 shares will get 30 per cent, between 6,000 and 10,000 will receive 20 per cent and 20,000 to 70,000 will receive 10 per cent. Applications for more than 70,000 will receive nothing. Share certificates will be sent out tomorrow as will cheques for shares not allocated.

BAT match

BAT Industries, the tobacco and financial services group, has signed a joint-venture agreement to take over a cigarette factory in Ukraine. BAT will have 65 per cent and the rest will be owned by Collective Enterprise Prilucky Tobacco Factory. The plant accounts for more than 18 per cent of Ukrainian production. The new company plans to invest more than $35 million dollars. Ukrainians buy up to 80 billion cigarettes a year.

Metalrax up

Metalrax, the engineering and storage-equipment group, increased pre-tax profits from £7.2 million to £7.3 million in the year to December 31 despite a fall in turnover from £63 million to £60 million. However, a higher tax charge depressed earnings per share, down from 6.93p to 6.81p. The annual dividend rises 12 per cent to 4p and shareholders will receive a bonus issue of one share for every ten held.

Peek advances

Peek, the electronic traffic-control and field data-systems group, lifted pre-tax profits 17.7 per cent to £7.13 million in the year to end-December, on turnover up 5.1 per cent to £88.8 million. There is an extraordinary gain of £3.42 million. Earnings climb to 4.2p (3.6p) a share. The total dividend is maintained at 3.4p for the year, with an unchanged final payout of 2.35p. The shares added 2p to 79p.

HSBC Holdings plc 1992 Results
Performance continued to improve

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS			
For the year	1991 £m	1992 £m	% +
Group profit before tax	880	1,710	94
Profit attributable to shareholders	586	1,221	108
Per share	**Pence**	**Pence**	
Earnings	36.06	62.07	72
Dividends	12.71	19.00	49
At year-end	**£m**	**£m**	
Shareholders' funds	4,819	8,011	66
Capital resources	6,789	13,975	106
Assets	85,786	170,450	99

Comparative figures for 1991 have been amended to conform with the current year's presentation following the disclosure of the Group's inner reserves in 1992.

"Although economic growth in Asia was robust, the continuing recession in several of our major markets made 1992 quite a difficult year, and resulted in a significant increase in the level of provisioning. In these circumstances, the Group's results are satisfactory.

The acquisition of Midland Bank was a very significant development in the history of the HSBC Group. Integrating Midland into the Group is a major priority for 1993 and I am pleased to report that the progress so far has been encouraging.

The continuing improvement in the Group's performance is closely linked to the outlook for the world economy in 1993. The economy in the US is gradually recovering, but economic prospects in the UK and much of the rest of Europe are less encouraging. We are determined to continue to develop our business in Asia, which contains some of the world's fastest-growing economies and where we have an unrivalled position."

Sir William Purves, Group Chairman

The HSBC Group's performance continued to improve in 1992. In addition to the inclusion of Midland Bank for the first time since its acquisition in July, the growth in profits during 1992 reflects improved results from all the major members of the Group. In particular, increases were achieved by HongkongBank, Hang Seng Bank and The British Bank of the Middle East. Both Marine Midland Bank and HongkongBank of Australia returned to profitability.

The information in this announcement does not comprise statutory accounts within the meaning of section 240 of the Companies Act 1985. The statutory accounts for the year ended 31 December 1992, which contain an unqualified auditors' report and do not contain a statement under section 237(2) or (3) of the Act, will be delivered to the Registrar of Companies in England and Wales in accordance with section 242 of the Act.

Copies of the full results announcement may be obtained from Group Public Affairs, 10 Lower Thames Street, London EC3R 6AE, United Kingdom or 99 Bishopsgate, London EC2P 2LA, United Kingdom. The 1992 Annual Report and Accounts will be sent to shareholders in mid-April.

HSBC Holdings plc

Incorporated in England with limited liability
Registered in England: number 617987
Registered Office and Group Head Office: 10 Lower Thames Street London EC3R 6AE, United Kingdom

Wassall powers to £17.8m

BY GEORGE SIVELL
CITY EDITOR

WASSALL, the mini-conglomerate, ended 1992 with net cash of £31 million and, after the failure of its bid for Evode, is on the look out for further acquisitions.

The cash is acting as a drag on Wassall's earnings and the company needs to make a bid to keep up its earnings momentum. Chris Miller, chief executive, said: "That is why the institutions hold our shares." The high values put on stock market companies at present mean it is likely that Wassall's next acquisitions could be private companies.

Profits before tax rose 73 per cent to £17.8 million during 1992, thanks to the acquisition of DAP, in North America, in 1991 and a rise of 17 per cent among Wassall's other business. Brokers expect profits before tax of £26 million this year.

The total dividend rises 25 per cent to 2.5p, as forecast during the failed bid for Evode, out of earnings per share up 15 per cent to 10p. Dividend cover is expected to fall slowly in the future.

Mr Miller said the outlook on both sides of the Atlantic was good, with signs of recovery particularly in America".

THE TIMES
RENTALS

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NATIONAL MUTUAL LIFE

Notice of Annual General Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the 163rd Annual General Meeting of National Mutual Life Assurance Society will be held at the registered office of the Society, The Priory, Hitchin, Hertfordshire SG5 2DW on Friday, 23 April, 1993, at noon for the following purposes:

1. to receive the Directors' Report, the Accounts for 1992 and the Auditors' Report thereon;

2. to re-elect Directors;

3. to approve the rates of Directors' remuneration;

4. to re-appoint the Auditors and to authorise the Directors to fix their remuneration;

A member qualified to vote at the above meeting is entitled to appoint a proxy to attend and vote on a poll instead of him. A proxy need not be a member of the Society.

By order of the Board

E. J. S. MILLER, *Secretary*
16 March 1993

Steady start to account

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began yesterday. Dealings end March 26. §Contango day March 29. Settlement day April 5. §Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days. Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

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No	Company	Group	Gain or loss
1	Pearson	Newspapr,Pub	
2	Rentokil	Business Serv	
3	Anglia TV	Leisure	
4	Grand Met	Breweries	
5	Br Land	Property	
6	LWT CP	Leisure	
7	Refuge	Insurance	
8	Unisel	Mining	
9	Legal & Gen	Insurance	
10	Vodafone	Electrical	
11	Church	Drapery,Strs	
12	Hoskyns Gp	Electrical	
13	Scot & New	Breweries	
14	De La Rue	Industrial	
15	THORN EMI	Electrical	
16	T & S Stores	Drapery,Strs	
17	Hepworth	Industrial	
18	GKN	Industrial	
19	Body Shop	Drapery,Strs	
20	Johnson Matth	Industrial	
21	Concentric	Industrial	
22	Stand Chart	Banks,Disc	
23	Siebe	Industrial	
24	Land Sec	Property	
25	Hall Eng	Industrial	
26	MAM	Fin Trusts	
27	Eng China Cl	Industrial	
28	Heywd Wlm	Building,Rds	
29	Pilkington	Industrial	
30	Blue Circle	Building,Rds	
31	Sanderson Elec	Industrial	
32	Perkins Food	Foods	
33	Cussins	Building,Rds	
34	Bass	Breweries	
35	Jermyn	Property	
36	Schroders	Banks,Disc	
37	Gencor	Mining	
38	MB-Caradon	Industrial	
39	Claremont Ga	Textiles	
40	Coats Viyella	Drapery,Strs	
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Please take into account any minus signs

£1,000 MATCH THE SHARES

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The winner of the Portfolio Plus prize of £2,000 was Mr A Hunter of Brundall, Norwich.

Portfolio Plus

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BANKS, DISCOUNT, HP

BREWERIES

BUILDING, ROADS

BUSINESS SERVICES

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

DRAPERY, STORES

ELECTRICALS

ELECTRICITY

1992/93 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
468½	273	East Midlands	457	-3	17.1	5.0	8.8
483	266	Eastern Elect	477½	-1½	16.7	4.7	11.8
264	143	Hydro-Elect	256	-1	10.1	4.2	11.6
491	288	London Elect	488	-2	16.8	4.6	9.4
546	324	Manweb	537	+1	18.2	4.5	7.7
511	287	Midlands Elec	504	-2	17.2	4.6	10.6
538½	295	Northern Elec	533	-1	18.5	4.6	7.9
530	288	Norweb	528	+2	17.7	4.5	9.9
252½	142	Scottish Power	245	-2½	10.1	4.3	11.7
519	297	Seeboard	513	-2	17.2	4.5	9.3
555	313	Sth Wales	553	...	19.4	4.7	8.8
507	293	Sth Western	506	+1	17.4	4.6	9.1
491	270	Southern Elec	490	-1	16.6	4.5	9.7
540	331	Yorkshire Elec	534	-2	17.7	4.4	9.9
341	188	National Powr	339	+4½	9.1	3.6	11.2
342	196	PowerGen	340	+4½	9.2	3.6	10.6

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MINING

MOTORS, AIRCRAFT

1992/93 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
400	228	Abbey Panels	233	...	0.1	0.1	18.8
125	90	Airflow Stream	125	+2	7.8	9.9	77.5
123	56	Appleyard	105	...	8.2	7.3	14.7
263	130	Bletchley Mtr	262	-1	6.0	5.6	38.9
145	115	Bostrom	143	+3	7.0	3.4	...
370	300	Br Aerospace	278	+3	11.5	4.8	42.4
378	303	Caffyns	318	-5	...	...	...

NEWS, PUBLISHERS

1992/93 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
144	73	Adscene	133	...	4.0	4.0	14.2
390	315	Black (A&C)	325	...	13.0	5.3	19.4
598	398	Blenheim Gp	593	...	9.0	2.0	22.2
330	248	Bristol	275	-5	11.5	5.6	20.4
8300	5900	Daily Mail	8075	...	130	2.1	18.2
8300	5800	Daily Mail 'A'	8075	...	130	2.1	18.2
301	193	Dorling Kind	300	...	...	1.3	28.7
365	224½	EMAP	329	-1	...	3.0	21.4
963	533	Euromoney Pb	938	...	29.5	4.2	21.1
237	128	Harrington K	223	...	4.5	2.7	-
358	155	Haynes Pub	314	-½	8.0	2.5	13.5
247½	140	Headline	243	...	10.0	1.6	27.0
183	105	Home Counts	140	...	8.2	7.9	26.4
430	235	Independent	425	...	...	...	...
510	289	Johnstne Press	510	...	5.5	1.4	24.1
125	49	Mirror Gp	98	...	...	...	9.3
459½	297	Pearson	385	...	...	4.0	18.1
682	447	Reed Intl	640	-2	16.0	3.3	21.2
138	61	Southnews	138	...	...	14	40.7
815	565	Thomson Corp	775	...	25.2	4.3	13.2
347	222	Trinity Intl	314	...	...	3.6	18.5
547	323	Utd Nwspaprs	533	-6	21.0	5.3	18.3

OILS, GAS

PAPER, PRINT, ADVTG

PROPERTY

SHOES, LEATHER

1992/93 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
28	9	Automagica	12	...	...	...	...
103	42	Headlam	103	...	2.4	3.1	40.8
500	265	Lambert	475	...	12.5	3.5	12.4
111	63	Pittard Garnar	93	...	1.5	2.2	12.3
41	18	Strong & Fisher	22	...	1.0	6.3	5.8
193	88	Stylo	126	...	2.5	2.6	...

TEXTILES

TOBACCOS

1992/93 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
1010	609	BAT	956	+8	...	5.3	20.2
670	480	Rothmans 'B'	657	+3	16.2	2.1	15.0

TRANSPORT

1992/93 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
440	211	Assoc Br Ports	397 †	-½	8.5	2.9	...
816	531	BAA	796	+1	14.5	2.4	14.0
315	219	Br Airways	298	-3	10.1	4.6	8.0
182	45	Clarkson (H)	75	...	8.0	...	3.5
101	11	Davies Newman	23 #	...	...	...	...
515	293	Eurotunnel Uts	480	+6	...	...	...
88	44	Fisher (James)	69	...	5.5	...	13.7
140	70	Graig	132	...	4.5	4.4	...
203	147	Iokl Steam	156	...	...	6.4	7.5
39	22	Jacobs (J)	30	...	1.9	8.4	17.9
69	41	Lon O'Seas Frs	67	...	1.2	2.5	4.1
2175	1237½	Manchstr Sn	2162½	...	4.5	0.3	11.8
343	190	Mersey Docks	343	+1	7.5	3.0	-
210	168	Natl Express	195	-2	...	4.9	12.6
280	216	NFC	254	+1	6.5	3.5	19.2
357	170	Ocean Group	291	...	14.3	6.6	13.2
63	31	Ocean Wilson	52	...	...	6.8	11.6
584	296½	P & O Dfd	573	+7	30.5	7.1	20.2
156	97	P & O 5 1/2%	131	-1	...	5.6	...
530	267	Powell Duffryn	530	-1	22.6	5.7	21.2
138	96	Seacon	118	...	...	5.8	7.4
59	23½	TIP Europe	29½	...	1.4	6.3	7.2
87	24	TNT	38½	-4½	...	...	...
745	495½	Tibbet & Britn	730	...	...	2.0	29.2
478	214	Tiphook	365	+1	17.3	6.3	7.2
305	208	TDG	260 †	+½	9.5	4.9	-

WATER

1992/93 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
536	308½	Anglian Water	527	-1	19.3	4.9	9.6
620	336	Northumbrian	616	+1	20.5	4.4	6.4
524	323	North West	512	+1	19.6	5.1	9.0
515	298	Severn Trent	509	-1	19.3	5.1	7.4
531	301	Sthrn Water	522	-1	19.5	5.0	9.2
1300	670	Sth Staffs	1285	...	40.2	4.2	8.3
555	306	South West	547	+1	21.7	5.3	6.3
544	324	Thames Water	537	-2	19.2	4.8	10.2
593	337	Welsh Water	587	...	21.4	4.0	6.8
636	358½	Wessex Water	627	...	...	4.1	8.5
575	336	Yorkshire W	570	-2	19.5	4.6	9.3

Source: Finstat

● USM; # Price at suspension; † Ex dividend; ‡ Ex scrip; † Ex rights issue; ↓ Ex all; § Ex capital distribution; − Figures or report awaited; ... No significant data

هكذا من الأصل

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

	Bid	Offer	+/-	Yld %
ABBEY UNIT TRUST MANAGERS 80 Holdenhurst Rd, Bournemouth BH8 8AL. 0345 717373				
Mastertrust	113.80	120.60	-0.50	1.40
International	93.43	98.75	-0.83	1.15
Dividend Gth	57.02	60.65	-0.16	4.95
Global Gth Sec	60.36	64.21	+0.03	2.85
Ethical Growth	65.10	69.25	-0.08	2.74
High Inc Equity	151.70	161.30	-0.10	5.27
Worldwide Bond	268.80	285.00	-0.90	4.39
Gilts Fixed Int	129.60	137.30	+0.20	6.92
ABTRUST MANAGEMENT LTD 10 Queens Terrace, Aberdeen AB9 1QJ. 0224 633070. Dealing: 0800 833580. 30 Finsbury Circus, London EC2M 7QQ. 071 374 6801				
Amer Inc Gth	45.32	47.97	-0.36	1.77
European	81.36	86.23	-0.26	...
European Inc	78.25	83.07	-0.67	1.61
Exempt	904.70	934.40	-0.80	3.28
Extra Inc	42.24	45.57	-0.09	5.45
F East Emerg Ec	81.45	87.77	-1.21	0.73
ALLIED DUNBAR UNIT TRUSTS Allied Dunbar Centre, Swindon, SN1 1EL. 0793 514514. Dealing: 0793 610366				
High Inc	370.60	396.10	+0.90	4.25
Equity Inc	207.40	221.70	-0.10	4.11
High Yield	232.70	248.70	..	4.18
Balanced	639.40	683.50	+3.00	2.78
American Inc	50.01	53.46	-0.21	3.20
Wld Asset Val	38.57	41.23	-0.01	1.99
Japan	153.50	163.60	-0.80	0.01
Secs of Am	440.40	469.70	-0.10	0.43
AXA EQUITY & LAW St George's Hse, Corporation St, Coventry CV1 1QD. 0203 553231				
UK Growth Acc	314.20	334.30	+1.20	2.88
-do- Inc	225.20	239.60	+0.80	2.88
Higher Inc Acc	560.90	596.70	..	4.02
-do- Inc	346.00	368.10	..	4.02
Gilt/Fxd Int Acc	176.90	156.40	-0.50	6.62
-do- Inc	92.57	97.71	-0.20	6.62
Nth America	274.10	291.60	-1.10	...
Far East	260.30	277.00	-4.50	0.37
Europe	219.60	233.70	-0.70	1.27
General Inc	423.30	450.40	+1.00	2.57
-do- Acc	464.90	494.60	+1.20	2.57
Brit Excell	64.27	68.38	+0.21	2.88
Brit Fndmtls Inc	64.90	69.05	-0.16	5.29
Brit Fndmtls Acc	83.65	88.99	-0.21	5.29
Global Opps	70.89	75.42	-0.26	.
BARCLAYS UNICORN LTD Gredley Hse, 1-11 Broadway, London E15. 081 534 5544				
Capital	106.60	114.10	..	2.19
Euro Gth Inc	114.60	121.90	-0.60	1.02
Extra Inc	104.90	112.20	-0.30	5.53
General	240.70	257.40	-0.20	3.46
Gilt Fxd Inc	58.19	60.17	+0.05	6.63
Income	471.60	504.40	-0.60	4.79
BARING FUND MANAGERS PO Box 156, Beckenham, Kent BR3 4XQ. 081 658 9002				
American Gth	96.00	101.90	-0.50	0.10
Amer Smllr Cos	128.40	134.40	-0.90	...
Australia	...	...		
Convertibles	52.25	55.90	-0.14	7.40
Eastern	173.30	186.70	-3.10	1.70
Equity Income	79.83	84.92	-0.01	6.50
European Gth	229.70	244.40	-0.80	1.60
Euro Smllr Cos	154.50	165.10	-0.40	2.00
Exempt	82.98	85.25	..	3.80
German Growth	55.36	59.04	+0.14	0.80
Global Growth	108.90	116.20	-0.40	...
Japan Growth	167.20	179.40	-0.10	...
Japan Sunrise	140.70	150.40	-0.90	...
Portfolio	116.40	124.50	-0.20	3.40
-do- Acc	207.60	222.10	-0.50	3.40
UK Growth	76.97	81.58	-0.16	3.10
UK Smaller Cos	77.90	83.31	-0.01	2.00
Select Managers	63.30	67.80	-0.18	2.10
BRITANNIA LIFE UNIT MANAGERS LTD 190 West George St, Glasgow G2 2PA. 041 332 3132				
Balan Gth Acc	104.05	111.28	+0.33	2.39
-do- Inc	95.30	101.92	+0.30	2.39
Global Bond	29.95	31.81	-0.02	5.79
High Yield Acc	51.95	55.57	-0.16	4.52
-do- Inc	38.08	40.73	-0.12	4.52
Smlr Cos Acc	84.70	90.59	-0.10	1.81
-do- Inc	73.33	78.78	-0.09	1.81
Amer Gth Acc	60.99	64.80	-0.47	..
-do- Inc	59.46	63.59	-0.46	..
Euro Gth Acc	96.62	103.34	-0.77	1.78
-do- Inc	95.30	101.92	-0.76	1.78
Mngd P folio	34.62	37.03	-0.21	1.54
Pacific Growth	89.98	96.23	-1.21	1.17
Intl Spec Opps	86.99	93.04	-0.03	1.09
BROWN SHIPLEY 9/17 Perrymount Rd, Haywards Heath. 0444 458144				
Financial	117.60	125.20	+0.30	3.55
Smaller Cos Acc	277.70	297.20	+0.40	...
Smaller Cos Inc	162.60	174.00	+0.20	1.32
High Inc	70.85	76.16	-0.24	7.25
Income	126.60	135.40	-0.50	4.29
Mngd P folio Inc	92.18	98.17	-0.61	2.12
-do- Acc	174.20	185.50	-1.20	..
North American	109.80	116.90	-0.70	0.19
Orient	103.90	112.00	-0.80	
Recovery	37.18	39.97	-0.20	2.95
German	42.97	46.05	-1.49	0.09
Intl Growth	33.34	35.68	-0.05	0.22
European Inc	23.10	24.85	-0.30	0.45
Conv General	..	..	...	..
BUCKMASTER MANAGEMENT Beaufort House, 15 St Botolph Street, London EC3A 7JJ. 071 247 4542. Dealing: 071 247 7474				
Fellowship Tst	64.55	68.68	-0.69	1.30
-do- Acc	71.98	76.58	-0.76	1.30
Income Fund 5	211.50	225.00	+0.30	4.07
-do- Acc	480.70	511.40	+0.60	4.07
Inv Portfolio	67.61	70.06	-0.11	2.00
-do- Acc	76.34	79.11	-0.12	2.00
Smaller Cos	120.50	128.20	...	2.00
-do- Acc	144.70	154.00	...	2.00
High Inc P folio	59.12	61.26	+0.11	4.70
BURRAGE UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD 117 Fenchurch St, London EC3M 5AL. 071 488 7216				
Sht Gilt Fxd Int	66.70	67.59	+0.12	6.96
CIS UNIT MANAGERS LTD PO Box 105, Manchester M60 8AH. 061 837 5060				
Environ	135.60	144.30	-0.70	1.69
UK Growth	145.90	155.30	...	2.29
UK Income	124.50	132.80	-0.30	4.46
CANNON FUND MANAGERS 1 Olympic Way, Wembley, Middx HA9 0NB. 081 902 8876				
SE Asia	78.42	83.87	-1.81	1.09
Growth	44.61	47.71	+0.09	3.00
Income	52.82	56.49	...	4.30
Far East	43.43	46.45	-0.73	0.17
North American	85.57	92.01	-0.24	0.01
Global	83.02	88.79	-0.31	0.68
European	69.25	74.06	-0.38	1.26
Japan	94.71	101.30	-0.50	0.01
Intl Currency Bd	61.12	64.76	-0.26	4.95
UK Cap Gwth	78.82	84.30	+0.62	2.01
CAPEL-CURE MYERS UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD 35 Fountain Street, Manchester M2 2AF. Enquiries: 061 236 5685. Dealing: 061 236 5362				
Capability Trusts				
American Gen	136.60	145.30	-1.50	0.19
-do- Acc	145.40	154.60	-1.60	0.19
European	67.14	71.09	-0.20	1.05
-do- Acc	69.59	73.68	-0.22	1.05
Far East Gen	53.45	56.87	-0.17	..
-do- Acc	53.45	56.87	-0.17	..
Glenfriars	252.00	268.10	-2.40	0.99
-do- Acc	283.70	301.90	-2.50	0.99
Growth	375.80	402.00	-0.60	2.55
-do- Acc	645.30	688.10	-0.10	2.55
Income Growth	371.40	395.20	-1.10	3.99
-do- Acc	493.80	525.40	-1.40	3.99
Master Portfolio	4449.0	4774.0	-16.00	2.66
-do- Acc	10683.0	11260.0	-18.00	2.66
Special Sits	86.36	91.88	+0.20	2.49
-do- Acc	101.06	107.52	+0.23	2.49
Exempt Fund				
High Yield	1197.0	1235.0	+3.00	4.48
-do- Acc	1386.0	1429.0	+3.00	4.48
CAPEL (JAMES) UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD 7 Devonshire Square, London EC2M 4HU. 071 955 5050. Dealing: 071 955 5055				
American Index	201.40	214.40	-2.30	1.70
Capital	534.40	570.30	-0.10	2.59
Eurotrack 100	130.90	139.30	-0.10	1.72
Euro Gth	81.03	86.24	-0.08	1.43
Far East Growth	83.30	88.90	-1.25	0.16
Global Bond	23.87	25.17	-0.08	6.69
Hong Kong	68.91	73.54	-4.27	0.65
Income	535.50	579.40	+0.60	4.65
Intl Growth	73.34	78.27	-0.89	1.04
Japan Growth	221.70	236.60	-0.40	...
Japan Smllr Cos	27.18	29.00	-0.01	...
Japan Index	65.62	70.03	-0.37	0.29
Nth American	438.80	468.30	-3.70	0.98
S pore Mly Gth	50.36	53.74	-0.39	...
The Footsie Fd	108.50	114.50	+0.20	2.74
Tiger Index	133.20	142.10	-4.70	0.74
Treble Index	101.10	107.80	+0.30	2.84
UK Index	123.10	131.30	+0.30	3.17
CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD 3 Copthall Avenue, London EC2R 7BH. 071 606 0708				
American P folio	86.44	92.38	.	1.00
European P folio	72.85	77.44	.	1.38
Japanese P folio	54.14	57.53	-0.30	..
Pacific P folio	92.70	99.66	-1.45	2.43
Cazenove P folio	69.93	74.80	..	3.00
UK Income Gth	62.99	67.49	..	5.00
CENTRAL BOARD OF FINANCE OF CHURCH OF ENGLAND 2 Fore Street, London EC2Y 5AQ. 071 588 1815				
Investment Fd	604.15	609.40	...	4.74
Fixed Int	153.70	156.45	...	9.27
Deposit	6.00	..	6.14	.
CHARITIES OFFICIAL INVESTMENT FUND 2 Fore Street, London EC2Y 5AQ. 071 588 1815				
Income	596.47	600.35		4.98
-do- Acc	2797.9	2816.6	...	...
Deposit	5.90	...	6.03	...
Fxd Int Inc	127.15	127.21	..	9.12
-do- Acc	166.55	166.88	..	...
CITY FINANCIAL UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD 1 White Hart Yard, London Bridge, SE1. 071 407 5966				
City Fin Assets	62.24	65.52	-1.68	2.41
Beckman Intl	84.40	89.10	...	3.18
Friars Hse Inc	179.88	192.34	-0.96	6.44
Friars Hse Cap	252.09	271.06	-0.02	2.87
COMMERCIAL UNION TRUST MANAGERS Exchange Court, 3 Bedford Park, Croydon CR0 2AQ. Enquiries: 081 681 2222. Dealing: 081 686 9818				
American Gth	114.90	122.23	-0.61	..
European Gth	95.83	101.95	-0.21	1.13
Far East Gth	96.68	102.85	-1.06	0.50
Japan Gth Acc	35.45	37.71	-0.47	..
Managed	61.87	65.82	+0.02	2.94
-do- Acc	74.72	79.49	+0.02	2.94
Mthly Inc Plus	47.84	50.89	-0.05	8.48
Smaller Cos	33.47	35.61	-0.04	2.18
-do- Acc	37.72	40.12	-0.07	2.18
UK General	68.90	73.30	+0.15	2.68
-do- Acc	82.60	87.87	+0.18	2.68
Wwide Bd	64.86	69.00	-0.25	6.33
-do- Acc	83.43	88.76	-0.36	6.33
Wwide Sp Sits	55.10	58.93	-0.11	0.20
-do- Acc	57.40	61.39	-0.12	0.20
Quilter General	123.15	131.01	-0.29	2.62
-do- Acc	135.55	144.20	-0.31	2.62
Quilter Income	92.21	98.10	+0.17	4.57
-do- Acc	113.65	120.90	+0.21	4.57
Quilter Intl	128.13	136.31	-0.44	0.62
-do- Acc	129.90	138.19	-0.45	0.62
Quilter UK Spec	70.16	74.64	+0.11	2.43
-do- Acc	92.83	98.76	+0.15	2.43
CU Prestige Fund Management				
Fin Property	101.56	108.04	-0.33	1.72
Fixed Conv	40.73	43.33	+0.03	8.48
-do- Acc	106.26	113.04	+0.10	8.48
Equity Inc	145.06	154.32	+0.06	4.01
-do- Acc	466.45	496.22	+0.19	4.01
High Yield	116.99	124.46	-0.09	5.21
-do- Acc	442.34	470.57	-0.33	5.21
Preference	48.30	51.38	+0.12	7.66
-do- Acc	244.66	260.28	+0.60	7.68
PPT Europe	151.77	161.46	-0.37	0.53
PPT Global Bnd	84.77	90.07	-0.37	4.75
PPT Gold Com	50.48	53.70	-0.61	...
PPT Thai	59.30	63.09	-1.56	...
PPT Hong Kong	91.25	97.07	-5.43	0.49
PPT Japan	97.81	104.05	-0.94	...
PPT N Amer	158.46	168.57	-0.76	...
PPT S'pore Mly	99.35	105.69	-0.86	...
PPT UK	116.39	123.82	+0.22	1.42
PPT Cash	91.26	91.26	+0.03	5.34
EAGLE STAR UNIT MANAGERS Bath Road, Cheltenham GL53 7LQ. 0242 577 555				
Oriental Op Acc	75.35	80.16	-2.18	0.99
Japanese Acc	51.41	54.69	-0.03	...
UK Balncd Inc	126.00	134.00	...	2.50
-do- Acc	147.00	156.40	-0.10	2.50
UK Growth Acc	206.80	220.00	-0.90	2.19
UK High Inc	133.80	142.30	-0.40	6.68
-do- Acc	157.90	168.00	-0.50	6.68
N America Acc	117.90	125.40	-0.70	0.31
European Acc	154.80	164.70	-0.80	0.42
UK Pref F/I Inc	60.87	64.58	+0.17	8.75
-do- Acc	98.23	104.20	+0.10	8.75
Intl Sp Sits Acc	46.97	49.97	-0.40	0.23
Environmntl Opp	71.88	76.47	-0.37	1.45
EDINBURGH UNIT TRUST MANAGERS Donaldson House, 97 Haymarket Terrace, Edinburgh EH12 5HD. 031 313 1000				
American	117.40	124.70	-1.70	...
UK Smlr Cos	184.40	195.90	+0.10	1.28
Eurofund	38.50	40.73	+0.06	0.98
Mngd Exempt	167.80	174.90	+3.50	3.00
Growth Inc	212.00	225.30	+0.80	3.99
High Dist	137.60	146.20	...	5.92
International	317.80	337.70	-1.00	0.96
Intl Income	81.42	86.92	-0.32	2.99
Pacific	56.15	59.66	-1.16	0.50
Smllr Jap Cos	56.94	60.50	-0.48	...
Tokyo	171.50	182.20	-0.80	...
Japan Exempt	95.42	98.04	+4.83	0.51
Sm Jap Exempt	474.50	487.50	+15.80	0.10
ENDURANCE FUND MANAGEMENT 41 Harrington Gardens, London SW7 4JU. 071 373 7261				
Endurance	171.60	182.50	...	1.13
EQUITABLE UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD Walton St, Aylesbury, Bucks. HP21 7QW. 0296 431480				
Pelican	106.50	112.10	+0.73	3.40
High Income	119.80	126.10	+0.45	5.11
Tst of Inv Tsts	141.17	148.60	+0.07	2.26
Special Sits	84.62	89.07	+0.60	3.14
North American	110.73	116.56	-1.48	0.90
Far Eastern	218.41	229.90	-3.13	1.58
Intl Growth	91.30	96.10	-0.25	1.51
European	64.76	68.17	+0.41	2.13
Smaller Cos	70.61	74.33	+0.20	2.30
FIDELITY INVESTMENT SERVICES LTD Oakhill House, 130 Tonbridge Rd, Tonbridge TN11 9DZ. 0800 414181				
America	228.30	242.30	-2.00	...
Cash Unit Tst	100.00	100.00	...	5.90
European Tst	113.50	120.70	-0.10	...
FOREIGN & COLONIAL 8th Floor, Exchange Hse, Primrose St, London EC2A 2NY. 071 628 8000				
European	95.01	100.50	-0.30	0.86
Far Eastern	121.30	129.60	-1.70	...
Oseas Income	90.86	97.26	-0.83	2.70
UK Growth	92.36	98.78	+0.33	1.32
UK Income	101.70	108.80	+0.10	3.82
US Smaller Cos	245.70	262.80	+0.40	...
FRAMLINGTON UNIT MANAGEMENT 155 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 3FT. 071 374 4100				
Am Smllr Co	438.70	469.10	-1.40	..
-do- Acc	448.20	479.30	-1.30	..
Capital	283.70	301.70	+0.20	2.16
-do- Acc	391.60	416.50	+0.30	2.16
Contl Smllr Cos	47.31	50.91	-0.08	1.18
-do- Acc	48.98	52.67	-0.09	1.18
Convertible	110.50	117.50	+0.10	6.46
-do- Acc	204.70	217.70	+0.30	6.46
European	98.79	105.40	-0.60	1.16
-do- Acc	102.10	108.90	-0.60	1.16
Extra Income	286.20	304.40	+0.20	4.39
-do- Acc	400.70	426.20	+0.20	4.39
Financial	108.70	116.60	-0.70	0.81
-do- Acc	113.10	121.40	-0.70	0.81
Health Fund Inc	115.50	123.30	-0.40	...
-do- Acc	115.50	123.30	-0.40	...
Income Tst	176.30	187.50	+0.20	4.05
-do- Acc	245.70	261.30	+0.30	4.05
Intl Growth	309.40	331.70	-2.30	...
-do- Acc	343.60	368.30	-2.60	...
Japan Gen	146.30	156.40	-0.10	...
-do- Acc	147.70	157.90	-0.10	...
Mngd P folio Inc	90.90	95.68	-0.07	1.04
-do- Acc	93.86	98.80	-0.07	1.04
Monthly Income	144.70	153.90	-0.20	4.55
Recovery	294.60	315.00	-1.50	0.85
-do- Acc	345.00	368.90	-1.80	0.85
Gilt Gth Tst	62.97	64.93	+0.35	7.02
-do- Acc	79.05	81.51	+0.44	7.02
FRIENDS PROVIDENT MANAGERS Castle Street, Salisbury, Wilts. SP1 3SH. Dealing: 0722 411411. Administration: 0722 411622				
Equity Dist	350.34	372.70	+0.55	3.00
-do- Acc	707.37	752.52	+1.12	3.00
Euro Gth Dist	106.67	113.48	-0.63	0.86
-do- Acc	109.86	116.87	-0.64	0.86
Fixed Int Dist	130.97	138.53	+0.63	6.40
-do- Acc	219.99	232.69	+1.05	6.40
Intl Gth Dist	75.32	80.13	-0.51	0.79
-do- Acc	77.92	82.89	-0.52	0.79
Nth Amer Dist	175.40	185.83	-0.94	0.75
-do- Acc	190.22	201.53	-1.02	0.75
Pac Basin Dist	224.55	238.88	-3.93	0.35
-do- Acc	228.09	242.65	-3.99	0.35
Stewardship Dist	296.96	315.91	-0.47	1.99
-do- Acc	351.32	373.74	-0.57	1.99
Stwd Inc Dist	61.62	65.55	-0.22	4.68
-do- Acc	75.49	80.31	-0.27	4.68
N Am Stwd Dist	103.05	109.63	-0.43	...
-do- Acc	109.01	115.97	-0.45	...
GT UNIT MANAGERS 8th Floor, 8 Devonshire Sq, London EC2M 4YJ. 071 220 4567. Dealing: 071 626 9431				
Am Sp Sits	143.60	153.60	-0.30	..
European	398.70	423.70	-1.80	1.00
Far East General	198.40	212.20	-1.90	0.34
Germany	101.70	107.60	-0.20	0.42
Global Assets In	66.60	71.12	-0.32	2.27
Global Assets Ac	69.78	74.51	-0.35	2.24
Income Inc	108.90	116.50	+0.40	7.55
International	253.50	271.10	-1.20	1.03
Intl Income	77.98	82.71	-0.91	4.82
Japan General	325.30	345.10	-0.60	..
Smllr Cos Div	45.32	48.48	-0.09	6.26
UK Capital Inc	152.90	163.60	+0.90	4.08
-do- Acc	261.50	279.70	+1.50	4.01
Uk Spec Sits	69.39	74.22	+0.12	1.71
US General	317.20	334.90	-1.00	0.11
W Wide Spec Sits	112.90	120.80	-0.70	0.11
GARTMORE FUND MANAGERS Gartmore House, 16/18 Monument Street, London EC3R 8AJ. 071 623 1212. Dealing: 0277 264421. Services: 0800 289 336				
UK Growth Funds				
British Growth	43.32	46.33	+0.30	1.25
Cash Trust	127.70	127.70	+0.04	5.54
Pract Inv Inc	102.20	109.60	-0.05	4.07
-do- Acc	218.19	233.97	-0.12	4.07
UK Smaller Cos	96.70	103.70	-0.10	1.56
Income Funds				
Preference Share	25.09	26.83	+0.07	8.24
High Inc	30.82	32.96	+0.07	5.49
UK Equity Inc	127.28	136.13	+0.17	4.03
Global Bond	30.61	31.73	-0.08	5.42
International Funds				
Gold Intl	65.62	70.37	-0.38	1.66
Frontier Markets	40.76	43.71	-0.46	0.23
Global Inc Gth	121.81	130.01	-0.82	2.37
UK Intl	108.63	116.18	-0.44	0.67
Overseas Funds				
American	134.41	143.33	-1.04	0.56
European	82.20	87.15	-0.23	0.78
Euro Sel Opps	94.55	100.71	-0.57	1.27
American Emerg	81.53	87.43	+0.01	...
Hong Kong	99.03	106.20	-6.07	2.25
Japan	178.28	189.77	+0.42	...
Pacific Growth	138.61	148.64	-3.45	0.52
GOVETT (JOHN) UNIT MANAGEMENT Shackleton House, 4 Battle Bridge Lane, London SE1 2HR. 071 378 7979. Dealing: 071 588 0526				
Intl Growth	122.78	131.32	-1.67	0.47
American Gth	121.67	130.13	-1.17	...
European Gth	69.05	73.83	-0.32	0.47
German Horizn	48.49	51.71	-0.30	0.92
Japan Gth	66.65	71.29	...	...
Pacific Inc	127.45	136.31	-4.62	3.00
Pacific Strategy	105.96	113.33	-2.75	...
UK Prog Inc	74.14	78.23	+0.06	4.86
Gt British Cos	48.60	51.25	-0.01	2.42
UK Small Cos	43.62	46.65	+0.12	2.13
GRE UNIT MANAGERS 36 Harbour Exchange Sq, London E14 9GE. 071 538 9668				
Cash	130.30	130.30	+0.10	6.48
Gilt Fixed	120.40	127.80	+0.80	2.59
Growth Equity	283.80	303.10	+0.50	2.32
Guardhill	420.60	449.30	+0.80	2.59
Income Trust	106.40	113.60	-0.10	3.78
International	153.90	164.40	-1.40	0.38
Japan Trust	107.10	114.40	-0.20	...
Managed	...	...	...	...
Nth American	266.70	284.90	-2.40	0.44
Pacific	340.50	363.70	-3.90	...
Prop Shares	...	...	...	...
Small Cos	...	...	...	...
European	341.90	365.20	-4.20	0.58
HALIFAX STANDARD TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD PO Box 600, Edinburgh EH15 1EW. 0800 838868				
Global Adv Inc	34.78	36.87	-0.30	1.68
-do- Acc	36.40	38.59	-0.40	1.68
Inc Adv Inc	29.35	31.12	-0.30	4.11
-do- Acc	30.51	32.35	-0.30	4.11
HAMBROS UNIT TRUST MANAGERS 5 Rayleigh Rd, Hutton, Brentwood, Essex. Enquiries: 0277 227300. Dealing: 0277 690390				
Canadian	73.05	78.25	-0.24	0.70
Equity Income	111.90	119.00	+0.80	3.60
European	132.90	140.70	-0.70	1.51
Intl Situation	73.21	77.88	-0.89	...
Japanese	118.40	126.10	-0.40	...
North American	105.60	112.00	-0.90	0.05
Scandinavian	104.20	110.10	-2.30	0.12
Smaller Cos	30.07	31.99	+0.60	2.28
HENDERSON PO Box 2003, Brentwood, Essex CM13 1XT. Enquiries: 0277 227300. Dealing: 0277 234772				
Amer Smaller	92.90	99.23	-0.51	...
Asian Enterprise	115.93	125.73	-1.82	0.94
Australian	134.58	143.86	-2.25	1.54
European	365.08	386.25	-0.97	1.13
European Inc	69.22	73.18	-0.10	3.41
Euro Sml Co	122.64	130.64	+0.25	0.61
Extra Income	253.75	270.13	-0.36	5.40
Family of Funds	68.26	72.89	-0.30	1.46
Fixed Interest	55.40	59.24	+0.13	9.67
Global Resour	86.32	92.65	-0.19	1.22
High Inc	277.53	296.67	-0.11	4.81
Income Gth	233.06	248.20	-0.05	4.01
-do- Acc	586.49	624.60	-0.14	4.01
International	224.44	237.88	-2.01	0.88
Japan Spc Sit	196.08	208.54	-0.75	...
Japan	168.66	179.28	-0.58	...
N Amer	235.71	250.63	-1.99	0.20
Pacific Smllr Cos	161.90	175.34	-3.34	0.58
Pref Gilt	47.01	51.09	+0.27	9.05
Smaller Cos Div	156.07	170.11	-0.16	4.36
Special Sits	250.85	266.40	+0.40	1.60
-do- Acc	385.46	412.43	+0.62	1.60
Best of British	55.86	59.89	+0.42	2.64
Spirit of the East	53.70	57.47	-0.80	0.87
HILL SAMUEL UT MANAGERS NLA Tower Addiscombe Road, Croydon. 081 686 4355				
British	87.84	93.94	+0.33	2.31
Capital	153.90	164.50	+0.20	1.96
Dollar	319.80	342.00	-2.40	0.15
European	192.50	205.80	-0.80	0.54
Far East	226.20	241.90	-4.60	0.63
Financial	648.40	693.40	+1.20	2.56
Gilt Fxd Int Inc	26.37	27.22	...	7.88
High Yield	98.27	105.10	-0.20	4.96
Income	131.90	140.90	-1.10	3.52
Intl	209.80	224.30	-1.30	0.36
Japan Tech	57.68	61.68	+0.22	...
Nat Resources	56.13	60.03	-0.38	0.78
Security	291.20	311.40	+0.80	2.12
Smaller Cos	103.50	110.60	...	1.65
Special Sits	132.30	141.40	+0.50	2.10
US Smaller Cos	66.86	71.50	-0.59	...
IBI FUND MANAGERS 36 Queen St, London, EC4R 1BN. 071 489 8673				
Brit O seas	246.70	259.70	-3.20	1.39
Capital Gwth	101.30	106.60	...	2.49
Inv Trusts	126.10	132.70	...	0.71
INVESCO MIM UT MANAGERS 11 Devonshire Square, London EC2M 4YR. 071 626 3434. Dealing: 0800 010733				
UK Specialist Trusts				
Smaller Cos	22.84	25.07	-0.03	1.69
Special Features	26.91	28.59	+0.15	1.61
-do- Acc	31.56	33.53	+0.17	1.61
General Funds				
UK Growth	52.93	56.71	+0.12	2.30
Assets Earnings	70.12	74.50	+0.17	2.00
do Acc	82.41	87.56	+0.21	2.00
Managed Invest	82.77	88.40	-0.26	1.35
Rupert Children	75.70	80.77	+0.31	1.73
High Income Funds				
Cashbox	50.22	50.22	+0.02	4.95
Extra Inc	78.50	84.20	+0.14	5.48
Gilt	28.13	29.62	+0.10	6.95
Income Gth	37.93	40.55	+0.03	3.66
MIMstar	77.41	79.35	+0.26	8.48
Preference	17.97	19.65	+0.10	6.72
UK Income	305.90	327.30	+0.40	3.34
Sector Specialist Funds				
Fincl Sec	54.38	57.77	-0.13	1.47
Property Shares	56.87	60.42	-0.39	2.29
Exempt Funds				
Exempt	139.10	146.50	+0.80	4.40
European Acc	111.20	117.90	-0.50	2.03
European Dist	105.90	112.20	-0.50	2.03
Overseas Growth Funds				
American Gth	50.79	54.00	-0.56	1.03
European Perf	107.80	114.40	-0.80	1.32
-do- Acc	109.90	116.60	-0.70	1.31
Euro Small Cos	20.81	22.19	-0.02	0.80
French Growth	69.05	73.51	-0.06	0.57
-do- Acc	73.59	78.35	-0.06	0.57
Hong K/China	61.98	66.74	-3.84	1.40
Intl Growth	49.35	52.43	-0.40	0.84
-do- Acc	49.35	52.43	-0.40	0.84
Japan Perf	27.83	29.55	+0.07	...
Accum Units	27.83	29.55	+0.07	...
Japan Smllr Cos	29.53	31.37	+0.08	...
Singapore Asean	70.27	76.28	-0.91	0.59
-do- Acc	70.71	76.75	-0.92	0.59
South East Asia	205.90	222.20	-5.10	0.99
US Smllr Cos	114.10	121.20	-0.60	...
-do- Acc	115.30	122.50	-0.80	...
Overseas Income Funds				
Global Inc	83.31	88.78	-0.59	2.73
Intl Bond	58.12	58.79	-0.15	6.62
KLEINWORT BENSON UNIT TRUST LTD 10 Fenchurch Street, London EC3. 071 956 6600. Dealing: 071 956 7354				
Income Trusts				
Cash Acc	68.85	69.19	+0.02	5.46
Extra Income	51.69	54.99	+0.15	7.00
Gilt Yield	119.50	126.00	+0.20	7.94
Global Income	194.10	206.50	+1.28	4.14
High Yield	132.00	140.40	+0.60	6.25
Smllr Cos Div	45.53	48.44	+0.02	4.93
Capital Growth Trusts				
Amer Smllr Cos	93.99	100.00	-0.61	...
North American	79.04	84.09	-0.24	0.42
European	130.90	139.30	-0.10	0.90
Euro Special	77.73	82.69	-0.29	1.00
General	264.40	281.30	+0.60	3.38
Japan	335.90	357.30	-0.50	...
Japanese Special	180.60	192.10	+0.50	...
Master Acc	214.60	228.30	-1.10	1.45
Pacific	243.20	258.70	-6.00	0.57
Smaller Cos	94.11	100.10	-2.68	2.31
UK Equity Gth	34.34	36.53	+0.16	2.71
LAS UNIT TRUST MANAGERS 113 Dundas St, Edinburgh EH3 5EB. 031 550 5151				
European	73.66	78.36	-0.48	0.51
Extra Income	24.27	25.82	+0.29	3.47
Far East	23.99	25.52	-0.14	1.00
Income Gwth	72.82	77.47	+0.83	3.05
Intl Growth	50.41	53.63	-0.26	0.89
Japan	53.82	57.26	+0.16	...
Maximum Dist	100.80	102.80	+0.10	7.36
N Amer Equity	41.88	44.55	-0.49	0.48
UK Equity	86.24	91.74	+0.08	3.26
LAURENCE KEEN UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT 1 White Hart Yard, London SE1. 071 407 5966				
Income Gth Inc	53.27	56.67	+0.18	4.69
LEGAL & GENERAL UT MANAGERS 5 Rayleigh Road, Hutton, Brentwood Essex. Enq: 0277 227300. Dealing: 0277 690395				
Equity Dist	422.70	449.70	+1.60	2.88
Equity Acc	803.40	854.70	+3.00	2.88
Equity Income	90.19	95.95	+0.06	5.15
European	95.77	101.50	-0.20	1.68
Far Eastern	162.10	172.40	-3.20	0.34
Fixed Interest	51.22	54.49	+0.14	7.40
Gilt	92.59	98.19	+0.35	7.00
Global Growth	63.84	67.91	-0.49	0.77
Intl Bond	57.98	61.68	-0.14	5.00
Japanese	58.81	62.56	+0.10	...
Overseas Equity	92.94	98.87	-0.52	0.80
Pacific Gth	77.80	82.77	-2.24	1.35
LLOYDS BANK UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD Mountbatten Hse, Chatham, Kent ME4 4JF. 0634 834313				
Balanced	316.20	336.40	-0.40	2.92
-do- Acc	684.50	728.40	-0.90	2.92
Cond Euro Gth	51.31	54.02	-0.29	1.39
-do- Acc	54.26	57.12	-0.32	1.39
Extra Inc	238.10	253.40	-0.80	4.02
-do- Acc	579.20	616.20	-2.00	4.02
German Gth	104.70	110.30	-0.10	0.37
-do- Acc	109.80	115.60	-0.10	0.37
Growth Port	481.40	512.20	-1.00	1.77
-do- Acc	481.40	512.20	-1.00	1.77
Income	447.20	475.80	-0.50	3.74
-do- Acc	1133.0	1206.0	-2.00	3.74
Income Port	485.70	516.70	-0.30	5.01
-do- Acc	485.70	516.70	-0.30	5.01
Japan Growth	80.90	85.96	+0.44	0.01
-do- Acc	81.08	86.26	+0.45	0.01
Master Trust	51.54	54.83	-0.19	1.47
-do- Acc	56.05	59.63	-0.21	1.47
N American Gen	192.20	204.50	-1.00	0.01
-do- Acc	222.00	236.20	-1.10	0.01
NAm Sm Co Rec	141.70	150.80	+2.80	0.01
-do- Acc	144.60	153.90	+2.90	0.01
Pacific Basin	189.60	201.80	-6.30	0.61
-do- Acc	200.40	213.20	-6.70	0.61
Small Cos Rec	291.10	306.50	-0.30	2.49
-do- Acc	375.60	395.40	-0.50	2.49
UK Growth	77.41	82.36	-0.14	2.37
-do- Acc	90.26	96.03	-0.18	2.37
Worldwide Gth	272.90	290.40	-2.50	0.27
-do- Acc	402.30	427.90	-3.70	0.27
LONDON & MANCHESTER Winslade Park, Exeter EX5 1DS. 0392 282673				
General	77.40	83.05	-0.01	3.00
Income	59.19	63.51	-0.11	6.00
International	55.30	59.34	-0.40	0.80
American	62.18	66.72	-0.63	0.30
Japan	42.90	46.03	-0.02	...
Tst of Inv Trusts	53.88	57.81	-0.37	2.00
M & G SECURITIES LTD Victoria Rd, Chelmsford CM1 1FB. Customer Services/Unit Dealing: 0245 390390				
American Gen	404.30	426.80	-5.10	0.90
-do- Acc	498.80	526.60	-6.30	0.90
American Rec	421.70	445.90	-5.40	0.44
-do- Acc	482.50	510.20	-6.10	0.44
Am Sm Co Acc	122.80	129.70	-1.20	0.04
Australia Acc	142.40	150.70	-3.20	1.67
Capital	615.00	650.40	-0.20	3.41
-do- Acc	678.50	717.70	-0.20	3.41
Commodity Acc	392.50	415.10	-3.00	1.22
Compnd Gth	799.10	845.00	+2.50	3.27
Dividend	33.60	36.00	...	4.74
-do- Acc	130.80	140.20	+0.10	4.74
Equity Inc	280.40	296.50	+0.20	5.40
European Div	57.30	61.00	-0.40	4.87
-do- Acc	64.80	68.90	-0.50	4.87
European Gen	380.10	402.00	-6.70	1.78
-do- Acc	474.80	502.20	-8.40	1.78
Extra Yield	350.70	375.20	+0.25	4.83
-do- Acc	1025.3	1097.2	-1.70	4.83
Far Eastern	259.50	275.10	-9.80	1.41
-do- Acc	341.30	361.80	-12.90	1.41
Fund of Inv	495.30	513.20	-5.40	2.45
-do- Acc	875.60	926.00	-9.90	2.48
General	52.10	55.10	-0.10	3.89
-do- Acc	137.20	145.90	-0.10	3.89
Gilt Fxd Int	62.40	62.40	+0.20	8.27
do Acc	154.20	154.40	+0.70	8.27
Gold	38.10	40.30	-0.20	1.91
-do- Acc	44.60	47.20	-0.10	1.91
High Inc	23.90	25.30	+0.10	5.09
-do- Acc	88.50	93.90	+0.70	5.09
Intl Growth	67.00	70.80	-0.80	1.16
-do- Acc	115.50	122.10	-1.30	1.16
Intl Inc	90.70	95.90	-0.90	5.13
Japan Gen Acc	43.40	45.80	...	...
Japan Smllr Cos	120.60	127.60	-0.20	...
Midland	50.40	53.30	...	4.38
-do- Acc	159.30	168.60	...	4.38
Recovery	34.30	36.70	+0.10	3.42
-do- Acc	54.00	57.60	...	3.42
Second Gen	58.80	62.20	-0.10	3.90
-do- Acc	143.80	152.20	-0.30	3.90
Smaller Cos	96.60	99.90	-0.20	3.74
-do- Acc	107.30	113.60	-0.30	3.74
Trustee	37.20	39.30	-0.10	4.31
Charibond 3	112.80	...	...	9.56
Charifund 2	612.10	618.30	+0.60	5.15
Pension ex 1	848.00	869.30	-2.70	4.50
NAACIF Inc 3	345.75	...	...	7.75
-do- Acc 3	1078.5	...	-2.50	7.75
MARKS & SPENCER UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD PO Box 410, Chester X, CH99 9QG. 0244 680066				
Inv Port Inc	133.40	142.70	+0.07	2.40
-do- Acc	148.20	158.40	+0.07	2.40
UK Income	109.80	117.40	+0.43	2.99
-do- Acc	122.50	130.90	+0.43	2.99
MARTIN CURRIE UNIT TRUSTS LTD Saltire Court, 20 Castle Terrace, Edinburgh EH1 2ES. 031 229 5252				
Emerg Mkts	75.16	80.38	-1.66	0.62
Far East (Pacific)	121.40	128.80	-6.10	0.79
Income Growth	69.99	74.29	-0.03	3.61
European	66.08	70.14	-0.60	1.97
Nth American	59.11	62.74	-0.85	1.16
UK Growth	76.61	81.32	-0.05	1.45
Intl Growth	88.32	93.75	-1.29	0.73
Charities	106.70	113.20	-0.10	4.35
Intl Income	65.33	69.35	-0.93	4.25
Japan	42.84	45.47	-0.16	...
MERCURY FUND MANAGERS LTD 33 King William St, EC4R 9AS. 071 280 2860				
American	195.30	207.20	-1.40	...
-do- Acc	208.80	221.40	-1.60	...
Cash	100.80	100.80	+0.10	5.84
-do- Acc	128.30	128.30	+0.10	5.84
European Gth	194.10	206.00	-1.30	0.34
-do- Acc	207.80	220.50	-1.50	0.34
General	454.50	484.80	+0.20	2.68
-do- Acc	864.80	922.50	+0.60	2.68
Global Dist	136.70	143.70	...	5.42
-do- Acc	149.80	157.60	+0.10	5.42
Income	135.10	144.10	-0.50	5.05
-do- Acc	197.80	211.00	-0.60	5.05
International	376.00	400.40	-3.20	0.93
-do- Acc	498.70	531.10	-3.20	0.93
Japan	154.10	163.40	...	...
-do- Acc	158.20	167.70	-0.10	...
New Europe	133.10	142.00	-0.90	1.41
-do- Acc	135.30	144.40	-0.80	1.41
Recovery	286.10	305.20	...	2.30
-do- Acc	357.40	381.30	...	2.30
European Inc	74.40	79.07	-0.37	2.97
-do- Acc	94.38	100.30	-0.40	2.97
Brit Blue Chip	71.90	76.55	+0.04	3.60
-do- Acc	84.19	89.63	+0.05	3.60
Portfolio	73.85	78.52	-0.17	3.05
-do- Acc	82.75	87.98	-0.19	3.05
Gold General	67.10	71.38	-0.76	3.39
-do- Acc	68.01	72.53	-0.78	3.39
Pacific	83.59	89.16	-2.10	0.56
-do- Acc	88.36	94.25	-2.22	0.56
UK Smaller Cos	49.45	52.75	-0.13	1.09
-do- Acc	55.20	58.88	-0.15	1.09
MIDLAND UNIT TRUSTS LTD 192 Eyre Street, Sheffield, S1 3RD. Dealing: 0742 520 200. Enquiries: 0742 529 076				
Balanced Dist	57.35	61.34	-0.06	3.35
-do- Acc	57.35	61.34	-0.06	3.35
British Dist	76.79	82.15	+0.95	2.27
-do- Acc	86.88	92.92	+1.08	2.27
European Gth	167.60	178.90	-0.90	0.21
-do- Acc	210.40	224.60	-1.10	0.21
Extra High Inc	68.11	72.84	-0.07	6.51
-do- Acc	118.40	126.60	-0.10	6.51
FT-SE 100 Index	48.41	51.77	+0.20	3.20
-do- Acc	48.41	51.77	+0.20	3.20
Gilt Fixed Int	50.54	52.58	+0.14	7.12
-do- Acc	148.70	154.80	+0.30	7.12
High Yield	214.00	228.90	...	5.13
-do- Acc	491.10	525.20	-0.20	5.13
Income	271.90	290.80	+1.00	3.92
-do- Acc	565.30	604.60	+2.10	3.92
Japan Gth	283.80	303.50	-1.20	...
-do- Acc	299.60	320.40	-1.20	...
Mandarin Acc	92.18	98.59	-1.81	1.27
North American	170.40	182.20	-1.20	0.90
-do- Acc	214.20	229.10	-1.40	0.90
MORGAN GRENFELL INVESTMENT FUNDS LTD 20 Finsbury Circus, London EC2M 1UT. Dealing: 071 826 0826. Enquiries: 071 826 0123				
American Gth	270.00	287.40	-0.10	0.43
Deposit Inc	99.99	99.99	+0.03	7.00
Deposit Acc	121.55	121.55	+0.04	7.00
Euro Gth Acc	258.80	276.80	-1.30	...
Europa	118.40	127.50	-1.00	...
Intl Gth	163.60	174.50	-1.20	...
Japan Tracker	63.94	67.75	-0.06	...
UK Equity Inc	143.80	154.90	-0.40	5.07
-do- Acc	173.20	186.50	-0.50	5.07
UK Ind Tracker	141.20	151.30	-0.10	3.49
US Eq Ind Trkr	200.30	212.40	-1.60	1.23
-do- Acc	211.90	224.70	-1.70	1.23
Asian Trader	139.50	151.50	-5.30	1.05
MURRAY JOHNSTONE UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT 7 West Nile St, Glasgow G2 2PX. 0345 090 033				
American Inc	177.30	181.20	-2.20	2.58
European	60.54	61.82	-0.25	1.23
Olympiad	52.72	54.09	-0.72	0.60
Global Bond	48.57	49.09	-0.10	7.07
Smaller Cos	60.60	63.22	-0.01	1.79
Equity Income	91.31	93.87	-0.30	4.90
UK Growth	81.98	84.40	-0.22	1.91
NM UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD The Billen Centre, North Harbour, Portsmouth. Enquiries: 0705 372222. Dealing: 0705 387730				
American Acc	49.77	53.08	-0.44	0.80
Australian Acc	295.40	316.90	-3.50	...
Conscience	63.85	68.14	+0.13	1.45
-do- Acc	68.57	73.17	+0.14	1.45
European	169.40	180.60	-0.70	1.22
-do- Acc	180.70	192.70	-0.60	1.22
Extra Income	71.38	76.17	+0.09	6.21
-do- Acc	107.60	114.80	+0.10	6.21
Far East Gth	144.70	154.60	-4.10	0.12
Gilt Fxd Inc	58.28	61.69	+0.12	7.47
Gold	29.62	31.84	-0.17	...
-do- Acc	31.89	34.29	-0.17	...
Income	51.20	54.61	-0.13	5.49
-do- Acc	153.50	163.70	-0.40	5.49
International	28.83	30.93	-0.29	0.94
-do- Acc	41.43	44.45	-0.41	0.94
Jap Sm Cos Acc	258.10	275.30	+0.90	...
S pore Mly Acc	153.50	164.60	-1.80	...
Smllr Cos Acc	23.87	25.66	+0.05	1.99
Special Sits	31.82	34.21	-0.10	1.99
-do- Acc	36.32	39.05	+0.12	1.99
Tokyo	69.79	74.44	-0.19	...
-do- Acc	70.49	75.18	-0.21	...
N & P UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD 35 Fountain St, Manchester M2 2AF. 061 237 5322				
N&P UK Growth	67.22	71.52	+0.10	2.94
N&P Gilt Fxd Int	73.81	78.11	+0.70	7.00
N&P Higher Inc	184.00	195.30	+6.80	4.96
N&P UK Income	98.68	105.95	+0.21	4.11
N&P Intl	84.47	90.83	+0.02	1.98
N&P Smaller Cos	70.93	75.87	-0.21	1.78
NEWTON FUND MANAGERS 2 London Bridge, London SE1 9RA. 071 407 4404				
General	159.49	169.68	-1.33	2.54
Global	271.89	289.25	-4.59	1.29
Growth	103.81	110.44	-0.21	2.50
Income	197.44	210.05	-0.67	4.60
Intl Bond	129.13	136.98	-1.91	8.30
PEARL UNIT TRUST LTD PO Box 500, Peterborough PE2 6BR. 0733 470470. Dealing: 0800 626577				
Growth	138.10	145.30	+0.30	2.76
-do- Acc	239.00	251.60	+0.50	2.76
Income	215.40	229.30	-0.30	3.82
Intl Equity	213.40	227.00	-1.30	1.11
-do- Acc	233.60	248.50	-1.40	1.11
Equity	215.00	228.70	+0.30	2.65
-do- Acc	435.80	463.60	+0.60	2.65
UK Intl 25 Acc	67.77	72.09	-0.01	2.11
UK Income	58.66	62.40	-0.02	3.37
UK Smllr Cos Acc	68.51	72.88	-0.05	1.74
New Europe Acc	61.72	65.66	-0.28	1.56
PERPETUAL UNIT TRUST 48 Hart Street, Henley on Thames. 0491 417000				
Asian Smllr Mkt	83.53	89.34	-1.06	0.45
FEP Gth Inc	96.15	102.84	-0.54	1.45
Intl Gth	452.09	483.52	-2.94	0.94
Income	285.04	304.86	+0.71	3.62
W'wide Recov	280.62	300.13	-1.24	0.85
American Gth	205.26	219.53	-0.75	0.01
Intl Emerg Cos	171.96	183.92	-2.07	0.19
Europen Gth	183.69	196.46	-4.33	0.15
European Gth	111.14	118.87	-1.00	1.36
UK Growth	72.79	77.86	-0.28	3.15
High Income	78.65	84.12	+0.17	4.63
Japanese Gth	172.19	183.58	-0.45	0.01
PROLIFIC UNIT TRUST MANAGERS Walbrook Hse, 23 Walbrook, London EC4N 8LD. Dealing: 0800 262443				
International	169.40	180.20	-1.60	0.92
High Income	108.20	115.10	+1.40	3.77
Conv Gilt	109.90	116.90	+0.30	6.74
Far East	284.00	302.10	-3.70	0.34
PROSPERITY UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT 1 Sessions Hse Sq, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1XX. 0622 674751				
American	50.65	53.88	-0.67	0.54
Emerging Mkts	61.27	65.18	-1.02	0.23
General	47.57	50.61	+0.08	3.38
International	82.52	87.79	-0.71	1.30
Gilt Units	36.67	37.49	+0.09	7.99
Global PEP	35.08	37.32	-0.21	2.09
Income Gth	62.35	66.33	+0.22	5.30
European	42.88	45.62	-0.11	1.16
Gilt/Fixed Int	25.58	27.21	-0.01	6.12
PRUDENTIAL UNIT TRUSTS LTD 51/69 Ilford Hill, Ilford, Essex IG1 2DL. 081 478 3377. Pricebank: 0426 925091				
Pru Mngd Tst**	29.58	31.65	-0.22	1.63
Pru Csh Hvn Inc	101.20	101.20	+0.03	5.41
-do- Acc	104.36	104.28	+0.03	5.41
Pru Equity	699.71	705.37	+1.37	2.40
Pru Equity Inc	78.92	84.40	-0.32	4.49
Pru European	173.58	185.64	-0.19	1.82
Pru Global Gth	77.37	82.74	-0.22	1.55
Pru High Inc	84.79	90.68	-0.45	5.66
Pru Intl	153.17	163.81	-1.35	1.32
Pru Intl Sm Co	65.14	69.66	-0.68	0.92
Pru Japanese	157.77	168.73	-0.86	...
Pru Nth Amer	147.51	157.76	-1.35	0.44
Pru Pacific Mkt	68.96	73.75	-1.92	1.91
Pru Premr Inc	50.00	52.07	+0.16	7.38
Pru Smllr Cos	80.22	85.79	-0.12	2.01
Pru Spec Sits	97.86	104.66	+0.12	2.21
Pru UK Growth	109.89	116.67	+0.27	2.32
** Formerly Holborn Trust				
ROTHSCHILD FUND MANAGEMENT LTD St Swithin's Lane, London EC4N 8NR. Dealing: 071 634 2981/6				
NC Income	153.03	164.50	-0.33	3.67
NC Japan	227.95	244.37	+0.89	...
NC Maj UK Cos	93.20	100.22	-0.13	2.51
NC America Inc	490.38	525.90	-3.18	0.55
-do- Acc	569.58	610.84	-3.69	0.55
NC Smlr UK Cos	250.79	273.50	+0.07	1.85
NC European	252.22	269.02	-0.79	1.51
SAVE & PROSPER GROUP 16-22 Western Rd, Romford RM1 3LB. 0708 766966 or 0800 829029 (IEAs only)				
Amer Inc Gth	74.54	79.20	-0.49	3.83
Capital Units	140.20	149.10	-1.30	1.50
Commodity	96.09	102.20	-1.20	1.31
European Gth	149.50	159.00	-2.10	1.46
Financial Sec	166.80	177.40	-1.00	2.00
High Return	207.60	220.80	-0.50	4.92
High Yield	204.40	217.40	-0.40	4.28
Income Units	105.70	112.40	-1.90	5.70
Investment	166.80	177.40	-1.70	1.56
Japan Gth	120.60	128.20	-0.60	...
Japan Smaller	156.30	166.20	-0.90	...
Masterfund	44.36	47.19	-0.52	1.02
Scotbits	243.00	258.50	-1.10	2.14
Scotshares	248.00	263.80	-0.90	2.73
Scotyields	218.30	232.20	-0.70	4.33
Select Intl	126.30	134.30	-1.60	0.69
Smaller Cos	214.50	228.10	+0.20	4.50
Special Situation	106.40	113.10	-0.60	0.80
UK Equity	219.70	233.70	-0.50	3.06
US Growth	144.50	153.70	-1.60	0.28
SCHRODER UNIT TRUSTS LTD 33 Gutter Lane, London EC2V 8AS. Client line: 0800 526 535. Broker line: 0800 526 540				
American	248.77	265.35	+1.98	0.68
-do- Acc	268.75	286.67	+2.14	0.68
Australian	133.06	141.93	-3.68	1.40
-do- Acc	156.43	166.86	-4.32	1.40
UK Enterprise	204.74	218.36	+1.43	2.76
-do- Acc	236.51	252.27	+1.65	2.76
European Gth	60.99	65.05	+0.01	1.34
-do- Acc	63.13	67.33	...	1.34
Euro Smllr Cos	56.59	60.36	+0.08	0.68
-do- Acc	56.98	60.78	+0.09	0.68
Far Eastern Gth	63.19	67.40	-1.80	...
-do- Acc	64.30	68.58	-1.83	...
Fixed Interest	52.41	55.27	+0.11	8.60
-do- Acc	64.39	67.92	+0.15	8.60
Gilt Income	103.09	108.63	+0.31	8.35
-do- Acc	144.06	151.81	+0.43	8.35
Income	295.43	315.12	+1.36	4.55
-do- Acc	871.57	929.66	+3.99	4.55
Japan Enterprise	54.77	58.42	-0.11	...
-do- Acc	54.77	58.42	-0.11	...
Japan Smllr Cos	345.69	368.73	+0.42	...
-do- Acc	346.38	369.47	+0.43	...
Pacific Gth	80.62	85.99	-1.78	0.56
-do- Acc	83.13	88.67	-1.84	0.56
Smaller Cos	180.81	192.86	+0.21	1.30
-do- Acc	207.22	221.03	+0.24	1.30
Tokyo	86.71	92.49	-0.63	0.01
-do- Acc	87.59	93.42	-0.64	0.01
UK Equity	202.41	215.90	+1.31	3.08
-do- Acc	374.84	399.83	+2.43	3.08
US Smllr Cos	134.46	143.42	+1.06	...
-do- Acc	134.46	143.42	+1.06	...
World Fd	68.17	72.71	+0.07	1.72
-do- Acc	71.94	76.73	+0.08	1.72
SCOTTISH AMICABLE UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD 150 St Vincent St, Glasgow G2 5NQ. 041 204 2200				
Equity Income	42.46	45.22	-0.36	4.38
Equity Strategy	62.01	66.04	-0.38	1.80
European Opps	71.35	75.99	-1.19	3.22
Maximum Inc	98.03	104.61	+0.04	5.64
UK Smaller Cos	47.65	50.75	-0.32	3.31
SCOTTISH LIFE INVESTMENTS 19 St Andrew Sq, Edinburgh. 031 225 2211				
UK Equity	341.70	368.40	+0.90	2.93
American	256.70	272.40	-2.90	0.80
Pacific	292.50	313.30	-3.60	0.81
European	455.10	486.70	-0.30	1.20
Worldwide	76.88	82.19	-0.55	1.25
SCOTTISH MUTUAL INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT 109 St Vincent St, Glasgow G2 5HN. 041 248 6100				
UK Equity	303.80	323.20	+0.60	2.82
UK Sm Cos Eqy	191.80	204.10	-0.20	2.66
European	326.10	347.00	-1.80	1.79
North American	259.60	276.20	-1.60	0.59
Income Plus Inc	63.46	67.52	-0.19	3.94
UK Spec Sits	65.64	69.84	+0.25	2.51
SCOTTISH PROVIDENT INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT LTD 6 St Andrew Sq, Edinburgh EH2 2YA. 031 558 2341/2/3				
Equity Gth Acc	25.17	26.94	+0.03	3.05
Intl Growth Acc	27.73	29.70	-0.13	1.13
Global Inc Acc	30.98	33.16	-0.10	3.95
Market Ldrs Acc	25.78	27.59	...	3.08
SG TOUCHE REMNANT Mermaid Hse, 2 Puddle Dock, London EC4V 3AT. 071 248 1250				
American Gth	86.05	92.03	...	...
Euro Spec Sits	43.77	46.69	...	...
-do- Acc	46.35	49.44	...	...
Far East Opps	30.10	32.45	...	...
-do- Acc	30.93	33.34	...	...
General Growth	98.31	105.30	...	2.36
Global Tech	121.00	130.80	...	...
Income Growth	98.84	106.20	...	3.89
Income Monthly	56.76	60.70	...	5.19
Japan Growth	69.05	73.44	...	...
Overseas Gth	74.77	79.66	...	...
Smaller Cos	69.81	75.06	...	1.88
Special Opps	97.67	105.00	...	1.99
Wld Spec Sits	45.10	48.56	...	...
-do- Acc	45.21	48.66	...	...
STANDARD LIFE TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD 3 George St, Edinburgh EH2 2XZ. 0800 393777				
Managed	43.36	46.07	-0.50	1.77
Equity Gth Acc	58.38	62.03	-0.70	1.20
UK Eq General	42.09	44.73	-0.50	...
-do- Acc	55.23	58.69	-0.70	...
European Acc	41.18	43.76	-0.50	1.25
Far East Acc	49.79	52.91	-0.20	0.50
Gilt Fxd Int Inc	31.00	32.79	-0.10	6.53
N American Acc	45.71	48.57	-0.30	0.71
O/s Lgr Cos Acc	265.10	287.70	-1.10	1.65
UK Eq High Inc	34.70	36.87	-0.40	3.53
-do- Acc	40.64	43.18	-0.40	3.53
UK Lgr Cos Inc	289.80	314.30	-3.60	3.72
UK Lgr Cos Acc	372.80	404.30	-4.60	3.72
STATE STREET UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD Birchin Court, 20 Birchin Lane, London EC3V 9AQ. 071 626 1977				
Global A	NZ$3.40	NZ$3.61	..	1.11
US Eq	$2.066	$2.194	...	0.71
Far East Eq	Y202.4	Y215.0	...	
Japan Eq	Y199.1	Y211.5	...	
FT Europe	114.50	121.60	...	1.67
FT North Am	$1.744	$1.849	...	0.09
FT Japan	Y202.5	Y215.0	...	
FT Asia Ex Jap	120.80	128.20	...	1.41
STEWART IVORY UNIT TRUST MANAGERS 45 Charlotte Sq, Edinburgh. 031 226 3271				
American	360.60	383.20	-4.90	0.29
British	919.20	972.50	+0.30	4.64
European	384.50	409.40	-1.00	1.57
Japan	125.30	133.30	+0.10	...
New Pacific	284.60	303.10	-4.60	1.37
Mngd Cash	96.16	96.16	+0.03	5.39
Majority Stlg	100.37	101.37	+0.03	5.27
Inv Tst	179.00	189.70	-0.60	2.02
Salms PPP	366.00	385.30	...	...
SUN ALLIANCE Admin. 5 Rayleigh Rd, Hutton, Essex. 0277 227300. Dealing: 0277 690589				
Equity Acc	722.60	772.80	+1.90	2.31
N America Acc	116.30	124.40	-0.60	0.13
Far East Acc	111.70	119.50	-0.30	...
W wide Bond	63.78	67.71	-0.10	5.20
European	81.95	87.65	-0.65	0.59
Equity Income	80.36	85.95	...	3.79
SUN LIFE OF CANADA Basingview, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 2DZ. Dealing: 0256 841414				
American Gth	35.58	38.06	-0.21	0.81
Managed Assets	117.35	125.51	-0.15	3.80
UK Income	36.14	38.66	-0.01	3.27
UK Growth	35.93	38.43	+0.05	2.92
Worldwide Gth	30.05	32.14	-0.04	0.55
TSB UNIT TRUSTS LTD Charlton Place, Andover, Hants. SP10 1RE. 0264 346794				
American	210.22	223.64	-0.42	0.17
-do- Acc	230.89	245.63	-0.47	0.17
British Gth	84.86	90.28	-0.21	2.05
-do- Acc	99.03	105.35	-0.25	2.05
European	92.72	98.64	-0.86	1.14
-do- Acc	97.80	104.04	-0.91	1.14
Extra Inc	178.31	189.69	-1.52	4.36
-do- Acc	284.41	302.57	-2.42	4.36
General Unit	258.76	275.27	-1.10	2.63
-do- Acc	510.58	543.17	-2.17	2.63
Income	312.78	332.74	-5.19	3.90
-do- Acc	637.08	677.75	-10.56	3.90
International	480.30	510.96	-2.93	0.67
-do- Acc	627.83	667.90	-3.84	0.67
Pacific	307.59	327.22	-6.17	0.09
-do- Acc	322.14	342.70	-6.46	0.09
Premier Income	51.00	53.12	+0.05	7.15
-do- Acc	104.74	109.10	+0.10	7.15
Nat Resources	91.72	97.57	-2.39	0.92
-do- Acc	100.57	106.99	-2.61	0.92
Selected Opps	92.28	98.17	-0.58	1.24
-do- Acc	115.53	122.90	-0.73	1.24
TARGET TRUST MANAGERS Charlton Place, Andover, Hampshire SP10 1RE. 0264 346747				
American Eagle	131.10	140.10	-0.60	0.22
Australia	7.250	7.750	-0.100	1.03
Equity	181.60	194.40	+0.30	4.39
Euro Spec Sits	143.40	152.20	-0.20	0.57
Financial	39.59	42.30	+0.10	2.87
Global Opps Inc	88.15	94.08	-0.59	2.14
-do- Acc	91.37	97.52	-0.60	2.14
Gold Gen Inc	42.51	45.50	-0.25	0.97
-do- Acc	81.11	86.90	-0.46	0.97
Income	117.60	126.00	+0.40	4.90
Japan General	130.80	139.30	-0.40	...
Preference	22.36	24.00	...	7.56
UK Capital	102.50	109.50	+0.90	3.08
Worldwide Cap	196.60	209.80	-0.30	3.06
World Income	83.71	89.22	-0.28	3.41
THORNTON UNIT MANAGERS LTD 33 Cavendish Sq, London W1M 7HF. 071 493 7262. Dealing: 071 493 3545				
Amer Sml Cos	69.23	73.84	-1.98	...
-do- Acc	71.40	76.16	-2.03	...
Cash	51.45	51.45	+0.02	6.23
-do- Acc	61.23	61.23	+0.02	6.23
European Opps	62.25	66.36	-0.39	0.44
-do- Acc	62.90	67.05	-0.40	0.44
Far East Opps	135.38	144.40	-2.13	0.67
-do- Acc	138.53	147.76	-2.20	0.67
Gold/Nat. Res	38.88	41.47	+0.03	...
-do- Acc	39.99	42.65	-0.03	...
Japan	67.45	71.78	+0.31	..
-do- Acc	67.45	71.78	+0.31	..
Little Dragons	62.31	66.46	-1.73	0.75
-do- Acc	63.93	68.19	-1.77	0.75
Oriental Income	39.95	42.61	-0.78	3.73
-do- Acc	50.42	53.78	-0.98	3.73
Tiger	201.52	214.95	-5.35	1.23
-do- Acc	210.79	224.84	-5.60	1.23
UK Small Cos	65.64	70.20	-0.28	2.32
-do- Acc	76.45	81.76	-0.32	2.32
UNITED CHARITIES UNIT TRUSTS Unicorn Hse, 252 Romford Rd, London E7. 081 534 5544				
United Charities	222.30	236.40	+5.60	4.13
WAVERLEY UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD 13 Charlotte Sq, Edinburgh EH2 4DJ. 031 225 1551				
Australasn Gold	11.65	12.39	-0.24	0.50
Pacific Basin	29.56	31.44	-0.85	0.60
Canadian Gth	39.33	41.83	+1.97	0.10
Global Bond	$0.996	$0.998	-0.000	7.19
Penny Share	20.91	22.24	-0.12	1.50
WHITTINGDALE UNIT TRUST MANAGERS 2 Honey Lane, London EC2V 8BT. 071 606 3132				
City Reserve	52.33	52.33	+0.01	5.82
Gilt Growth	66.64	69.36	+0.18	...
Gilt Income	53.39	55.56	+0.15	8.00
Short Dtd Gilt	110.70	112.20	+0.20	3.90
US Govmnt Bd	$0.710	$0.720	-0.000	...
Challenger	95.39	97.61	+0.07	...
WOOLWICH UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD 2 White Oak Square, Swanley BR8 7AG. 081 298 4000				
Stockmarket Fd	66.71	70.96	+0.34	2.18

Source: Finstat

* Yield expressed as CAR (Compound Annual Return); † Ex dividend; ‡ Middle price; ... No significant data.

FT-SE VOLUMES

Abbey Natl	2,200	Coats Vly	2,800	Legal & Gn	163	Scot & New	273
Alld-Lyons	1,900	Cm Union	282	Lloyds Bk	1,500	Scot Power	786
Anglian W	72	Courtaulds	2,100	MB Cardn	212	Sears	1,000
Argyll Gp	1,300	De La Rue	80	Marks Spr	2,400	Svrn Trent	757
Arjo Wiggn	929	Eng China	1,700	NFC	110	Shell Trans	3,000
AB Foods	239	Enterpr Oil	357	NatWst Bk	5,900	Siebe	625
BAA	415	Fisons	2,300	Nat Power	741	SmKl Bch	611
BAT Inds	1,500	Forte	1,600	Nth Wst W	475	Smith Nph	2,200
BOC	694	GRE	1,600	Nthrn Fds	693	Smith (WH)	1,600
BP	4,900	GUS A	91	P & O	366	Sthrn Elec	915
BT	3,900	Gen Acc	950	Pearson	922	Std Chartd	854
BTR	5,600	Gen Elec	6,100	PowerGen	2,500	Sun Allnce	1,500
Bk of Scot	1,000	Glaxo	2,500	Prudential	1,200	TI Gp	1,400
Barclays	2,800	Granada	483	RTZ	1,000	TSB	1,800
Bass	808	Grand Met	2,600	Rank Org	916	Tate & Lyle	1,200
Blue Circle	1,000	Guinness	1,400	Reckitt Col	676	Tesco	3,100
Boots	1,300	HSBC	8,400	Redland	2,100	Thames W	539
Bowater	655	Hanson	3,700	Reed Intl	1,400	Thrn EMI	563
Brit Airwys	3,000	ICI	2,400	Rentokil	524	Tomkins	1,400
Brit Gas	5,800	Inchcape	712	Reuters	174	Unilever	2,100
Brit Steel	8,000	Kingfisher	252	Rothmans	351	Utd Bisc	2,100
Burmah Cast	172	Kwik Save	312	Ryl Ins	1,300	Vodafone	2,000
Cable Wire	2,800	LASMO	1,000	Ryl Bk Scot	868	Wellcome	412
Cadbury	1,600	Ladbroke	2,500	Sainsbury	1,200	Whitbd 'A'	506
Carlton Cms	413	Land Secs	748	Scot Hydro	615	Wllms Hld	604

MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday): Dow Jones 3429.44 (+1.62); S&P Composite 449.67 (-0.16)

Tokyo: Nikkei Av'ge 18086.18 (+48.66)

Hong Kong: Hang Seng 5854.61 (-315.79)

Amsterdam: CBS Tendency 105.5 (+1.3)

Sydney: AO 1626.4 (-35.1)

Frankfurt: DAX 1702.57 (-4.57)

FT 30 share: 2269.8 (+1.8)

Brussels: General 6204.02 (+16.76)

Paris: CAC 529.40 (+0.89)

Zurich: SKA Gen 487.5 (+1.2)

London: FT A All-Share 1424.95 (+3.61); FT 500 1564.77 (+3.92); FT Gold Mines 98.0 (+0.4); FT Fixed Interest 113.61 (+0.15); FT Govt Secs 97.74 (+0.05); Bargains 38936; SEAQ Volume 578.1m; USM (Datastrm) 131.95 (-0.19)

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

First Dealings	Last Dealings	Last Declaration	For Settlement
March 8	March 19	June 17	June 28

Call options were taken out on 15/3/93: Alvis, Amstrad, Aran Energy, ASDA, Avesco, Cupid, Costain, Ferranti, Gestetner, Hanson Wts, Lucas, Medeva, MTM, Proteus, Premier Cons, Racal, Stand Chartered, Steel Burrill Jones. Puts: FNFC, Pilkington, Stand Chartered, Steel Burrill Jones. Puts & Calls: Amstrad, Medeva, Queens Moat.

LIFFE OPTIONS

	Series	Calls Apr	Calls Jul	Calls Oct	Puts Apr	Puts Jul	Puts Oct
Alld Lyon	550	25	39	50	10	21	37
(*563)	600	5	18	28	42	62	67
ASDA	67	7½	12½	14½	3	5½	8
(*72)	76	3½	8	10	7½	11	12½
Bass	550	36	55	70	7	22	27
(*565)	600	11	27	42	30	44	51
Boots	500	25	38	47	7	22	29
(*515)	550	4½	15	24	37	52	56
Br Airways	260	22	30	38	5	18	33
(*298)	300	11	20	28	14	28	32
BP	260	25	34	39	2½	8½	12
(*256)	280	12	22	27½	7½	16	21
	300	5	13½	19	20	28	32
Br Steel	80	13	17	20	2	5½	7
(*91)	90	5½	11	14	5	9½	13
C & W	700	28	49	65	15	31	44
(*712½)	750	8½	27	42	47	66	72
CU	580	33	52	60	7	18	28
(*606½)	629	7½	27	36	33	43	53
Courtauld	550	45	60	70	5	19	27
(*589)	600	14	31	45	24	45	51
GKN	460	15	33	40	14	26	37
(*462½)	500	3½	16	23	43	50	58
Grnd Met	460	27	44	51	8	22	27
(*477)	500	7	24	32	34	44	49
ICI	1200	53	100	112	22	52	77
(*1225½)	1250	27	74	88	48	77	105
	1300	12	53	51	83	108	135
Kingfshr	535	27	40	51	10	27	33
(*548½)	584	6	20	30	38	56	64
Ladbroke	180	21	26	33	5	12	18
(*199½)	200	7	16	23	15	22	29
Land Sec	460	46	51	52	2	11	14
(*500½)	500	14	23	30	11	32	34
M & S	330	31	37	45	2½	9	13
(*356)	360	10	19	27	12	22	27
Sainsbury	500	37	48	57	5	18	24
(*525½)	550	10	22	32	29	43	49
Shell	550	35	52	59	3½	11½	19
(*578½)	600	6½	23	30	27	34	44
Smkl Bch	460	23	40	50	12	26	33
(*466½)	500	6½	23	34	37	48	55
Storehse	180	18	27	33	4½	12	15
(*194½)	200	7	16	21	14	24	27
Trafalgar	74	5	8½	12	5	9	10½
(*73½)	83	2½	6	8	10½	15	17
Unilever	1200	54	80	105	14	35	39
(*1241½)	1250	20	53	77	39	57	73
Utd Bisc	360	29	34	42	7	16	21
(*383)	390	7	19	28	23	31	35

	Series	Calls May	Calls Aug	Calls Nov	Puts May	Puts Aug	Puts Nov
BAA	750	61	71	85	10	24	30
(*796)	800	31	42	56	29	43	54
BAT Ind	950	29	48	65	44	55	72
(*955½)	1000	13	30	43	80	87	105
BTR	600	25	37	43	17	25	32
(*603)	650	6½	17	24	52	56	63
Br Aero	260	33	46	60	16	25	34
(*278)	280	24	36	52	26	36	44
Br Telcm	420	20	27	33	11	22	26
(*427)	460	5½	11	17	36	47	51
Cadbury	460	39	50	58	7½	13½	19
(*486)	500	15	27	36	26	31	38
Guinness	460	29	42	52	17	25	33
(*479½)	500	9½	24	33	42	48	55
GEC	280	26	30	33	4½	10½	14
(*299½)	300	12	17½	21	11½	20	23
Hanson	240	12½	16	21	8	12	17
(*242½)	260	4½	8	12½	20½	25	28½
LASMO	160	25	31	35	6½	12	18
(*181)	180	13½	21	26	16	22	29
Lucas	140	12	18	22	11	15	22
(*143½)	160	4½	11	12	24	28	35
P & O	550	38	50	60	24	35	49
(*572½)	600	14	28	38	55	63	80
Pilkingtn	100	17	20	26	4½	7½	11
(*112)	110	11	16	22	8½	15	17
Prudential	330	14	22	29	17	23	29
(*334)	360	4½	12	18	39	44	47
RTZ	650	37	57	70	21	32	42
(*662½)	700	16	33	47	52	60	75
Scot New	460	22	33	41	14	27	33
(*469)	500	7½	17	25	40	52	55
Tesco	240	23	28	35	7	11	15
(*259)	260	11	19	24	16	20	24
Thames W	500	48	53	56	6	16	20
(*537)	550	15	22	29	25	41	45
Vodafone	390	36	45	58	10	19	26
(*416½)	420	20	30	41	24	34	40

FT-SE INDEX (*2923)

	2800	2850	2900	2950	3000	3050
Calls						
Mar	132	80	37	12	4	2
Apr	146	106	74	45	26	14
May	163	126	94	75	50	33
Jun	176	142	120	95	65	46
Dec	260	-	198	-	149	-
Puts						
Mar	3	6	15	40	93	139
Apr	18	29	46	66	99	134
May	35	51	69	122	157	197
Jun	48	60	83	105	135	168
Dec	100	-	135	-	185	-

	Series	Calls Mar	Calls Jun	Calls Sep	Puts Mar	Puts Jun	Puts Sep
Abby Nat	360	15	30	38	3½	14	21
(*372)	390	2	16	23	21	29	37
Amstrad	35	4½	7	9	1	3½	4½
(*38)	40	1½	4½	6½	3½	6	7½
Barclays	390	18	36	45	4	17	26
(*406)	420	3	22	31	21	32	43
Blue Circ	220	6	16	24	7	23	25
(*219½)	240	2	8	16	22	37	38
Br Gas	280	23	27	29	1½	7½	11
(*300)	300	5½	12	19	5	16½	20
	330	1	3½	8	30	40	41
Dixons	220	20	31	34	3	10	18
(*237½)	240	6	18	26	9	19	29
Eurotnnl	460	25	51	68	10	32	42
(*480)	500	6	32	49	35	54	62
Forte	200	9	15	21	3½	15	18
(*205)	220	2½	7½	13	17	29	32
Glaxo	650	25	58	82	9	35	49
(*660½)	700	5½	35	59	40	62	75
	750	1	20	38	89	100	110
HSBC	600	32	51	68	8½	38	51
(*622½)	650	8	28	47	36	68	80
Hillsdwn	140	15	18	22	1½	8	13
(*154)	160	2½	7½	13	10	21	25
Lonrho	80	5	11	14	2	7½	10
(*83)	90	1		9	9½	13	17
Reuter	1400	28	84	122	27	67	89
(*1409½)	1450	11	64	97	58	92	118
R-Royce	130	3½	9	13	5½	14	15
(*130)	140	1	5½	8½	12	20	25
Sears	90	9	11	14	1	5	7
(*97)	100	3	6	8½	4	11	13
Thrn Emi	850	18	48	60	8	26	51
(*858½)	900	3	26	35	46	56	84
TSB	160	15	22	26	2	7	12
(*171½)	180	3	12	16	11	17	23
Vaal Reefs	35	5½	8	8½	1½	2	4
(*39)	40	3½	4½	5½	3	4½	6
Wellcome	900	38	75	102	9	38	55
(*930)	950	13	47	76	34	62	80
	Series	**Apr**	**Jul**	**Oct**	**Apr**	**Jul**	**Oct**
Fisons	200	18	26	34	8	22	26
(*210)	220	8	19	30	21	34	39
	Series	**May**	**Aug**	**Nov**	**May**	**Aug**	**Nov**
Eastn Elc	460	35	42	49	11	22	28
(*478)	500	14	22	31	30	44	49
	Series	**Mar**	**Jun**	**Sep**	**Mar**	**Jun**	**Sep**
Natl Pwr	330	12	26	31	3½	12	21
(*339)	360	2	12	18	23	29	38
Scot Pwr	240	8	18	22	3	9	17
(*245)	260	1½	9	12	16	20	29

March 15, 1993 Tot: 26281 Calls: 11769 Puts: 14512 FT-SE Calls: 1691 Puts: 2216

*Underlying security price.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Close	Volume
FT-SE 100	Mar 93	2924.0	2935.0	2915.0	2922.0	10025
Previous open interest: 50443	Jun 93	2938.0	2953.0	2933.0	2939.5	5554
Three Month Sterling	Mar 93	94.12	94.14	94.06	94.08	10013
Previous open interest: 291780	Jun 93	94.60	94.60	94.52	94.56	15683
	Sep 93	94.76	94.77	94.72	94.75	3346
Three Mth Eurodollar	Mar 93	96.75	96.75	96.74	96.75	88
Previous open interest: 24491	Jun 93	96.60	96.61	96.58	96.60	1851
Three Mth Euro DM	Mar 93	92.15	92.18	92.14	92.19	9174
Previous open interest: 526815	Jun 93	93.17	93.25	93.15	93.24	45421
US Treasury Bond	Mar 93				110-21	0
Previous open interest: 318	Jun 93				109-11	0
Long Gilt	Mar 93	106-07	106-07	105-31	105-30	93
Previous open interest: 79813	Jun 93	107-02	107-08	106-27	106-28	20878
Japanese Govmt Bond	Jun 93	110.09	110.18	110.07	110.12	750
	Sep 93					0
German Govmt Bond	Jun 93	96.38	96.53	95.98	96.25	79288
Previous open interest: 138844	Sep 93				96.42	0
Three month ECU	Mar 93	90.95	91.03	90.95	91.04	367
Previous open interest: 19582	Jun 93	91.94	92.06	91.92	92.04	2102
Euro Swiss Franc	Mar 93	94.95	94.96	94.94	94.94	980
Previous open interest: 52022	Jun 93	95.67	95.67	95.61	95.63	4036
Italian Govmt Bond	Jun 93	96.94	97.14	96.87	97.01	10225
Previous open interest: 47212	Sep 93				96.84	0

MONEY MARKETS

Exchange index compared with 1985 was down at 77.2 (day's range 77.2-77.3).

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for March 15	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	2.6711-2.6910	2.6711-2.6745	⅜-⅝ds	⅞-1¼ds
Brussels	49.00-49.25	49.00-49.11	8-12ds	22-28ds
Copenhagen	9.1610-9.1970	9.1640-9.1850	8¼-9⅞ds	21½-24ds
Dublin	0.9800-0.9828	0.9800-0.9822	40-49ds	121-137ds
Frankfurt	2.3822-2.3913	2.3830-2.3862	⅜-⅝ds	1-1¼ds
Lisbon	220.45-221.70	221.25-221.70	180-195ds	460-575ds
Madrid	169.90-170.91	170.38-170.78	156-188ds	383-425ds
Milan	2300.40-2308.80	2305.60-2308.80	10-12ds	29-32ds
Montreal	1.7833-1.7888	1.7858-1.7878	0.18-0.05pr	0.26-0.07pr
New York	1.4315-1.4348	1.4330-1.4340	0.37-0.35pr	0.96-0.92pr
Oslo	10.1310-10.1710	10.1310-10.1530	1¼-3⅝ds	5⅝-8¼ds
Paris	8.1020-8.1270	8.1020-8.1140	4-4⅝ds	10½-11¼ds
Stockholm	11.1640-11.2910	10.2510-11.2750	2¾-5¼ds	9⅛-12ds
Tokyo	168.98-169.81	169.52-169.72	½-⅜pr	1¼-1pr
Vienna	16.75-16.85	16.75-16.80	2⅜-3¼ds	6¼-8ds
Zurich	2.1800-2.1914	2.1800-2.1830	¼pr-par	⅝-⅜pr

Sources: Extel. Premium - pr. Discount - ds.

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso*	1.4319-1.4344
Australia dollar	2.0266-2.0295
Bahrain dinar	0.5345-0.5465
Brazil cruzeiro *	31810.1-31810.4
Cyprus pound	0.7065-0.7165
Finland marka	8.662-8.778
Greece drachma	319.75-326.75
Hong Kong dollar	11.0673-11.0766
India rupee	44.75-45.71
Kuwait dinar KD	0.436-0.446
Malaysia ringgit	3.7227-3.7268
Mexico peso	4.44-4.54
New Zealand dollar	2.7107-2.7178
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.312-5.436
Singapore dollar	2.3525-2.3557
S Africa rand (fin)	6.6107-6.6871
S Africa rand (com)	4.5801-4.5863
U A E dirham	5.203-5.327

Barclays Bank GTS * Lloyds Bank

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

Australia	1.4162-1.4172
Austria	11.72-11.74
Belgium (Com)	34.32-34.36
Canada	1.2462-1.2467
Denmark	6.40-6.41
France	5.655-5.660
Germany	1.6625-1.6635
Hong Kong	7.734-7.735
Ireland	1.4585-1.4605
Italy	1607.0-1609.0
Japan	118.20-118.25
Malaysia	2.6015-2.6025
Netherlands	1.8745-1.8755
Norway	7.075-7.085
Portugal	154.2-154.4
Singapore	1.644-1.645
Spain	118.4-118.6
Sweden	7.8575-7.8675
Switzerland	1.5245-1.5255

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 6. Finance Hse 7

Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 8¼ Low 6 Week fixed: 6¼

Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth 5¾; 3 mth 5½. Sell: 2 mth 5⁹⁄₁₆; 3 mth: 5⁷⁄₁₆.

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis)	5¹³⁄₁₆-5¹¹⁄₁₆	5¹³⁄₁₆-5¹¹⁄₁₆	5⅝-5½	5½-5⅜	
Sterling Money Rates	6¼-6⅛	6¹⁄₁₆-5¹⁵⁄₁₆	6-5¾	5¹³⁄₁₆-5¹¹⁄₁₆	5⅝-5½
Interbank	6¼-6⅛	6¹⁄₁₆-5¹⁵⁄₁₆	6-5¾	5¾-5¹¹⁄₁₆	5⅝-5½

Overnight: open 6¼, close 6.

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Local Authority Deps	6	n/a	5¾	5¹¹⁄₁₆	5⅝
Sterling CDs	6¼-6⅛	6-5⅞	5¹³⁄₁₆-5⅝	5¹¹⁄₁₆-5½	5⅝-5½
Dollar CDs	3.10-3.07	n/a	3.13-3.10	3.22-3.19	3.52-3.49
Building Society CDs	6¼-6⅛	6¼-5⅞	6-5¾	5¹¹⁄₁₆-5½	5⅝-5½

ECGD: Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance. Make-up day: Feb 26, 1993 Agreed rates Mar 24, 1993 to April 25, 1993 Scheme I: 7.35 %. Schemes II & III: 7.47 %. Reference rate Jan 30, 1993 to Feb 26, 1993 Scheme IV & V: 6.228 %.

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar	3⅛-2⅞	3⅛-2¹⁵⁄₁₆	3⅛-3	3¼-3⅛	3⅛-2⅞
Deutschemark	8¼-8⅛	8⅛-8	7⅞-7⅝	7⅝-7⅜	8⅜-7⅞
French Franc	11⅞-11⅝	12½-11⅞	11⅞-11⅜	10½-10	11⅞-10⅞
Swiss Franc	5¼-5	5⅛-4⅞	5⅛-4¾	4⅞-4⅝	5⅛-4⅝
Yen	3⅜-3	3⅜-3¼	3⅜-3⅛	3⅜-3	3⅜-2⅞

GOLD AND PRECIOUS METALS (Bailey & Co)

Bullion: Open $327.70-328.10 Close: $328.60-329.10 High: $328.60-329.10 Low: $326.80-327.30 Krugerrand: $327.50-329.50 (£227.25-229.25)

Sovereigns: Old $78.00-81.00 (£52.00-54.00) New $78.00-81.00 (£52.00-54.00)

Platinum: $352.25 (£245.75) Silver: $3.65 (£2.535) Palladium: $106.65 (£74.40)

COMMODITIES

GNI REPORT: The storms which ravaged the east coast of the US over the weekend also helped perpetuate the firm tone to the sugar market. Not only did high winds and freezing weather hit Florida, a key cane producing area, but the tail end of the storm also caused devastation in Cuba. Prices of raw and white sugar soared as a result, but already there are fears that trader stockpiles will be released.

LONDON FOX — COCOA

Mar	696-680	May	780-778
May	706-705	Jul	793-791
Jul	716-714	Sep	808 SLR
Sep	728-726	Dec	835-830
Dec	747-746		
Mar	767-766	Volume:	2749

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

Mar	978-973	Nov	916-914
May	924-923	Jan	927-923
Jul	894-892	Mar	930-920
Sep	903-901	Volume:	1841

RAW SUGAR (FOB)

C Czarnikow		Dec	204.0-98.0
Spot 232.6		Mar	unq
May	255.0-53.0	May	unq
Aug	257.0-55.0	Aug	unq
Oct	229.0-27.0	Volume:	111

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		Dec	274.0-69.5
Spot 291.5		Mar	273.0-67.5
May	296.0-93.5	May	276.0-68.6
Aug	297.5-95.0	Aug	281.0-70.6
Oct	275.0-71.5	Volume:	2429

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION Average fatstock prices at representative markets on March 15

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB	90.99	114.40	135.36
(+/-)	-0.37	-6.34	-1.59
Eng/Wales	91.10	114.18	134.51
(+/-)	-0.48	-7.08	-2.55
(%)	-31.9	-50.6	-54.1
Scotland	86.95	115.10	139.69
(+/-)	+3.36	-3.66	+3.58
(%)	-4.2	-41.7	-27.0

LONDON MEAT FUTURES Live Pig (/kg)

	Open	Close		Open	Close
Apr	115.0	115.0	Jun	111.0	111.0
May	unq	unq		Volume:	15

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

WHEAT (close £/t)

Mar	141.90
May	143.20
Jun	144.50
Sep	109.20
Nov	111.35
Volume:	148

BARLEY (close £/t)

Mar	140.50
May	139.25
Sep	106.90
Nov	110.25
Jan	114.80
Volume:	10

HI-PRO SOYA (close £/t)

Apr	148.80
Jun	141.80
Aug	143.30
Oct	147.00
Dec	unq
Volume:	25

POTATO

(£/t)	Open	Close
Apr	39.0	39.1
May	unq	41.3
Apr	92.0	92.5
	Volume:	13

RUBBER No 1 RSS Cif (p/kt)

Apr 64.25-63.75

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm): Conflicting press reports about Opec output figures left the market confused.

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	18.85	n/c
Brent 15 day (Apr)	18.85	+0.05
Brent 15 day (May)	18.85	+0.05
W Texas Intermediate (Apr)	20.30	n/c
W Texas Intermediate (May)	20.40	-0.05

PRODUCTS ($/MT) Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

	Bid	Offer
Premium Gas .15	196 (n/c)	199 (n/c)
Gasoil EEC	178 (+2)	178 (+2)
Non EEC 1H Apr	177 (+1)	178 (+1)
Non EEC 1H May	175 (+1)	176 (+1)
3.5 Fuel Oil	76 (+1)	77 (n/c)
Naphtha	172 (n/c)	173 (-1)

IPE FUTURES GNI Ltd

GAS OIL

Apr	174.00-74.25	Jul	173.25-73.50
May	172.75-73.00	Aug	175.00-75.75
Jun	172.50-72.75	Sep	176.75-77.50
		Vol:	8563

BRENT (6.00pm)

Apr	18.88 SLR	Jul	18.97 SLR
May	18.87-18.89	Aug	18.97 SLR
Jun	18.91 SLR	Vol:	26296

UNLEADED GASOLINE

Apr	200.00-02.00	Jul	209.50 SLR
May	202.00-05.00	Aug	213.00 SLR
Jun	202.00-06.00	Vol:	26

BIFFEX GNI Ltd ($10/pt)

Mar 93	High: 1455	Low: 1445	Close: 1445
Apr 93	1445	1438	1437
May 93	1405	1395	1395
Jul 93	1250	1245	1248

Vol: 199 lots. Open int's: 2818 Index 1442 +14

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE (Official) (Volume prev day) Rudolf Wolff

	Cash	3mth	Vol
Copper Gde A (£/tonne)	1509.5-1510.5	1535.0-1535.5	1255300
Lead (£/tonne)	279.25-279.50	289.00-289.50	107000
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	996.5-997.0	1016.5-1017.0	258775
Tin ($/tonne)	5650.0-5652.0	5705.0-5710.0	7215
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1146.5-1147.0	1169.0-1169.5	1352250
Nickel ($/tonne)	5905.0-5910.0	5980.0-5985.0	39786

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Costs: **Frances Gibb** says some solicitors blush to admit their fees, and **Patrick Stevens** gives a breakdown

The charge of the heavy brigade

When members of the public think of lawyers, they reach for their wallets. The cost of going to law and the delays involved are the two outstanding blots on the legal system. Large City of London firms rank as the world's most expensive, according to a recent survey by the International Financial Law Review, with partners charging an average of £345 an hour. Recently Pamela Wheatley, a solicitor in Southborough, Kent, wrote in the *Law Society Gazette* of her "shame at being a solicitor" because the current going rate for the High Street solicitor is £110 to £120 an hour. "Surely it is obvious to everyone", she said, "that we have priced ourselves out of the market; that few people can afford these rates and no one should have to pay them?"

In fact, the recession, together with stricter standards on the need for solicitors to explain charges to clients, is slowly forcing change both in levels of fees and in the matter of keeping the public informed.

Conveyancing costs, for instance, have plummeted; they used to be twice as high as they are now in real terms. Some firms offer such low rates — a flat fee of £250 — that there is concern about the quality of service and frequent comments that the work simply cannot be done for that price.

It is not just tougher competition that is forcing fees down. Two years ago this May, the Law Society brought in a rule requiring solicitors firms to set up their own complaints machinery, and advising — but not obliging — them to inform clients of their charges at the start of a transaction and update them regularly. Although advising about costs is not compulsory, failure to inform clients can lead to a complaint to the Solicitors' Complaints Bureau.

As Mavis Fairhurst, the head of public relations at the bureau, says, "If a firm has not given information on costs, we look upon that as evidence of inadequate professional services. The penalties can be requiring the solicitor to reduce the bill, waive his right to recover further fees, or refund fees already paid." The bureau can also order compensation where appropriate.

> 'It is obvious we have priced ourselves out of the market'

Complaints about solicitors' fees have stood at about 10 per cent of all complaints to the bureau in the past three years. In 1992, the diagnostic unit at the bureau took 12,500 calls on its Helpline, and again about 10 per cent related to fees.

In many cases, the complaint is not that the charge is too high in itself, but that the service was inadequate and therefore the fee is not justified, she says.

Where clients are not happy with a bill, they can ask for it to be assessed by the Law Society (known as seeking a remuneration certificate). This applies only to non-contentious work. In cases involving litigation, clients can ask for the bill to be "taxed", or assessed by the court.

In 1992, there was a drop of 9.4 per cent in the number of applications for remuneration certificates: 2,842 applications, as against 3,140 in 1991. About one third of applications lead to a solicitor's fee being reduced. The principal reasons are: not sticking to the original estimate or quotation and not revising the fee in line with Law Society guidance; excessive time spent; defects in quality of service, and — in probate matters particularly — fixing the fee too rigidly as a percentage of the estate, when the work done does not justify this.

"We do feel the costs rule has had some effect, and we will be monitoring to see how much," Ms Fairhurst says. "Another factor could be that there is less work about and therefore fewer clients are challenging bills."

But there is some way to go. Michael Barnes, the Legal Services Ombudsman, who deals with people unhappy with the way the bureau has handled complaints, cites the case of a client who was charged at an hourly rate, then found that when the letter came, the solicitor had made 50 per cent markup for "care and attention". "In another case, the complainant had run up costs that were more than double the amount of money that was in dispute," he says.

> 'The going rate is what is needed to earn a fair living'

Solicitors should try to quote all-in rates and inform clients regularly, he says. Although they are exhorted to disclose charges, he believes a mandatory rule would have more bite. In the meantime, where a client says he was not informed, and the solicitor has no evidence to show that he was, "I am likely to believe the client," Mr Barnes says.

In the *Law Society Gazette*, Richard Thomas of Pangbourne in Berkshire, wrote in reply to Ms Wheatley that solicitors who overcharge deserve to lose their clients, while those who undercharge "may be costing us all dearly". The vast majority of solicitors, he said, "find that the going rate of £110 to £120 per hour is, in fact, needed for the reasonable but not excessive living to which most of us aspire. That is why it is the going rate."

In the end, the public will decide. Ms Wheatley says that only when solicitors put service to clients first and reduce their "inflated expectations" will they seen an upturn in work. Either way, charges must increasingly be justified if the public is to feel content.

THE COST OF GOING TO LAW

PARTNER - £ / HOUR

Region	Company/commercial Low	High	Avge	Commercial litigation Low	High	Avge	Private client Low	High	Avge
London	130	340	235	100	330	185	75	275	165
SE	60	185	113	60	180	107	60	160	105
Midlands	45	225	105	60	200	95	60	175	100
SW	70	200	105	70	150	95	65	140	90
E Anglia	65	150	97	60	120	90	55	140	92
NW	70	250	110	60	200	105	60	150	90
NE	60	250	110	65	220	105	55	160	90
Wales	65	175	105	60	180	88	60	150	90

ASSISTANT SOLICITOR - £ / HOUR

Region	Company/commercial Low	High	Avge	Commercial litigation Low	High	Avge	Private client Low	High	Avge
London	90	190	135	80	150	120	60	135	105
SE	50	120	80	50	110	80	50	110	75
Midlands	40	130	82	40	110	80	40	110	75
SW	60	100	77	50	100	73	55	100	73
E Anglia	50	100	77	50	95	72	50	90	71
NW	49	140	84	50	120	75	50	100	65
NE	49	150	85	42	120	72	40	100	63
Wales	60	100	85	60	105	78	50	90	70

Changing rates are based on a mixture of factors including seniority of the lawyer handling the problem, complexity of the case and specialist expertise required, and location and overheads. Basic rates may also go up if, for example, the work involves anti-social hours

Source: Chambers & Partners Directory 1992/3

A beginner's guide to where the money goes

Legal fees are the result of careful calculations based on overheads and the costs solicitors incur working at each individual practice

Solicitors price their services in essentially the same way as supermarkets price their baked beans, but they make the whole process so complicated that only they understand it. The basis of solicitors' charges is simple. They work out how much their work costs and then apply a markup. So why do clients find the whole question of lawyers' charges so daunting?

Here is a plain guide to solicitors' charges. First, they are called costs, not charges. Ignore this: they mean exactly the same. The most basic charge is to a private client. This is called "solicitor and own client", and the basis of it is how much it costs to do the work.

A routine conveyancing sale and purchase takes on average ten hours. Solicitors work out how much it costs to provide an hour's work. At its simplest, this can be done by dividing the overheads of the firm by the number of hours worked by the solicitors each year. Allowance is made for return on the capital employed in the practice and notional salaries for partners, etc.

This hourly expense rate will vary enormously according to the overheads of the firm. It can be as low as £55 an hour for a small provincial firm, but may be more than £200 in a City firm. Whatever the rate, the principle is the same: this is the amount that must be charged for every hour you work if you do not want to lose money.

In the conveyancing transaction, this translates to a basic charge of £550 for the ten hours' work by the firm with low overheads, and £2,000 for the City firm. Now this is just the basic charge to cover overheads. If the solicitor wants to earn more than he would by investing his capital elsewhere and getting a job on a modest salary, he needs to do what any retailer would do and apply a markup. This is done either by adding a straightforward percentage (typically 50 per cent) to the hourly rate, or by taking a percentage of the value of the property involved. The final charge will generally amount to much the same, whatever the method used, because it is limited by what the market will stand.

If a solicitor gives a quotation for work to be done, the figure should be fixed or else the hourly rate should be quoted, including or indicating the markup. The professional rules now require solicitors to explain the basis of their charges at the beginning of a transaction.

Many bulk purchasers of legal services, such as insurance companies, require hourly rates to be quoted inclusive of the proposed markup.

If the legal work involves not a conveyancing transaction but litigation, then the solicitor will still work on the basis of the hourly charge plus a markup. The litigation may result in the other party being ordered to pay the clients' costs. This process is controlled by the courts, and is called taxation. The amount that the loser is ordered to pay is limited to what the court considers reasonable. The court will have a scale of hourly rates for its area, and if the winner is employing solicitors who charge more, the winner will end up paying the difference between the total bill and the amount that he gets from his opponent. The hourly rate for most county courts is £55 to £75, and the standard markup is 50 per cent.

The markup can be varied in both court and non-court work. The factors to be taken into account are laid down by statutory instrument and by the courts. They include the difficulty of the work, its value and importance, and the circumstances in which it was done.

The lowest charges tend to be levied by the smallest firms, and the highest by the larger ones. Unlike in manufacturing, there are few economies of scale in legal work. If the volume of work doubles, the overheads also double, and the partners' expectation of profit increases too as they have to put in more capital. Although there may be scope for delegating some work to junior staff, they have to be trained and supervised, and this inexorably adds to the overheads and charges.

PATRICK STEVENS

The author is a practising solicitor.

● Next week: City firms' charges and a look into the future

Supreme justice — warts and all

It was Alexis de Tocqueville who in 1835 remarked that "scarcely any political question arises in the United States which is not resolved, sooner or later, into a judicial question". As English law continues to move in the same direction, *The Oxford Companion to the Supreme Court of the United States* is a valuable guide to the history and practice of that powerful institution.

An impressive group of expert contributors has summarised hundreds of significant judgments, some wise, many foolish. In its time, the court has precipitated a civil war on the question of slavery, but helped to secure a measure of racial justice when politicians were apathetic or downright hostile. It has advanced civil liberties for defendants in criminal cases but upheld the internment during the second world war of citizens of Japanese extraction, and asserted the constitutionality of statutes which criminalise homosexual conduct in private between consenting adults.



COUNSEL

DAVID PANNICK QC

What Alexander Hamilton, one of the founders of the American Constitution, described in *The Federalist Papers* as "the least dangerous" branch of government has, on occasions, been heroically firm, but on others distinctly wobbly.

Few social issues have escaped the court's attention, though the Justices have rarely acknowledged the limits of legal analysis as overtly as did Justice Stewart in 1964 when he conceded that the best he could do as a definition of pornography was "I know it when I see it".

Even so wise a judge as Justice Holmes could err, upholding in 1927 a state law for the compulsory sterilisation of the mentally impaired with the words "three generations of imbeciles are enough".

The volume does not confine its focus to the giants of Supreme Court jurisprudence. The Justices are described, warts and all, from James Wilson (jailed for debt in the 1790s) to Clarence Thomas (accused of sexual harassment prior to his appointment in 1991).

The *Companion* paints the unattractive human face of many of those who have sat in judgment. The work of the 19th-century court was made more difficult by "McKenna's temper tantrums, Henry Baldwin's violent rages and senile Stephen J. Field's exaggerated irritability".

James McReynolds (Associate Justice 1914-1941) was an anti-Semite who refused to talk to his distinguished colleagues Brandeis and Cardozo. In 1946, Hugo Black and Robert Jackson each threatened to resign from the Court if President Truman appointed the other as Chief Justice. So venomous was the unconcealed contempt which some of the Justices serving in the 1950s had for the opinions of their brethren that it is extraordinary that they found the time and inclination to do any work.

There are informative notes on legal topics covered by the court's judgments from abortion to zoning, and on a wide range of incidental subjects. If you want to know about the Supreme Court barber shop, the paintings in the building, or popular images of the court in works of fiction such as Margaret Truman's novel *Murder in the Supreme Court*, or the film *First Monday in October*, the *Companion* will tell you.

Even in 1,032 pages, the Supreme Court cannot be comprehensively described. I can find no reference to Judah P. Benjamin, the first Jew to be offered a Supreme Court seat by a president (he turned it down, in 1852, preferring to remain in the Senate). There is only an incidental mention of Bob Woodward and Scott Armstrong's 1979 book *The Brethren*, which revealed, to the unconcealed anger of some of the Justices, what went on behind the scenes.

Some day soon the European Convention on Human Rights will be incorporated into United Kingdom law, and English lawyers and judges will need properly to understand the principles by which fundamental rights are protected.

So extensive is the breadth of experience of the United States Supreme Court in interpreting and applying an enforceable Bill of Rights, so profound is its wisdom, and so illuminating its errors, on all topics of constitutional concern, that no serious lawyer can afford to remain ignorant of its jurisprudence.

For anyone interested in the content and development of the American law, and the personalities who have produced it, the *Oxford Companion* is an indispensible volume.

The author is a practising barrister and a Fellow of All Souls College.

● The Oxford Companion to the Supreme Court of the United States, *edited by Kermit L Hall, is published by Oxford University Press, £50.*

The lost children

INNS AND OUTS

A GROUP of MPs is demanding the abolition of family passports to stem the growing number of tug-of-love child abductions. A total of 1,200 children a year is abducted from the United Kingom alone.

MPs suggest that children should be issued with their own passports, with details of any court orders, such as with whom they should live. The call last week was part of an action plan aimed at stopping the crime of child abduction or child kidnapping, in which one parent, without the permission of the other, removes his or her child to another country.

The report, drawn up by MPs with the support of Reunite, the National Council for Child Abduction, says that the number of children now being abducted amounts to the equivalent of 40 nursery schools of children.

Most are under the age of eight and some never see their parents again. "The harm which a child suffers as a result of an abduction cannot be underestimated", it says, "however high-minded the motive of the abductor."

Huge waste

MILLIONS of pounds of taxpayers' money have been wasted because Parliament is leaving on the shelf proposals for law reform which have been made by its own law reform body, the Law Commission.

The stinging criticism comes from the formerly sedate commission in its annual report, which says that the country's legal system is labouring under "outdated laws" and "quaint Victorian wording".

Mr Justice Brooke, the new chairman of the Law Commission, welcomes efforts now being made by the Lord Chancellor and Parliament to tackle the problem, but he says: "Millions of pounds would have been saved in legal fees and court costs if Law Commission recommendations could have passed smoothly into law soon after they were published."

Hundreds of criminal appeals are also heard by the Court of Appeal every year, at an estimated cost of £13,000 each, the commission adds. Among them are cases involving the failure of the trial judge to provide a warning about uncorroborated evidence in his summing-up, although the commission had urged that the "troublesome" corroboration rules in certain cases (not confessions) should be scrapped.

Meanwhile, more than £3 million of taxpayers' money is being spent each year on the commission in pursuit of law reform, the commission says. Yet there are more than 20 reports which have still to be implemented, some more than six years old.

Night lawyer

PIONEER in education it may be, but Birkbeck College, London, is not breaking new ground with its part-time evening law degree course.

Paul Dobson, who holds a law chair at Thames Valley University, has written to point out that "we run a flourishing part-time evening LL B here at Ealing and have done so ever since 1974".



There are several others: Hull University has run a part-time evening course for years. Nottingham law school has just won approval to run a year part-time route to the solicitors' finals' examination, enabling students to take the legal practice course over two years.

Big hint

LORD Mackay of Clashfern's announcement that he hopes to create ten new High Court judges has gone down well. But as David Long, the president of the Holborn Law Society, told members at their annual dinner last week, let us hope that one of the appointees will be drawn from the ranks of solicitors.

"It's about time we had a solicitor High Court judge," he said.

Unless he does so, Lord Mackay's legislation to open up the higher ranks of the judiciary to solicitors begins to look as empty as some of the other legal reforms which have so far failed to bite.

All out

A TIP for all the lawyers who feel strongly about legal aid cuts: follow the Greek lawyers' example and go on strike.

For the past nine months, the Greek courts have been paralysed after the lawyers went on strike in protest over a new law that threatens to increase the tax they have to pay. The lawyers appear to have been on to a good wheeze, where their taxable income was calculated by taking the minimum court fee they earned for the year, regardless of their actual earnings.

The new law would assume that their actual earnings were 40 per cent more than the basic figure. Why they do not just make tax returns like anyone else is a mystery.

Hear, hear

NOISY tenants cause enormous heartache to neighbours and landlords alike, but as any lawyer will confirm, evicting them is far from easy. The main problem is usually a lack of direct evidence of the noise. Witnesses, generally neighbours, are frequently intimidated by the perpetrators and are afraid to come forward.

Sunderland council has come up with a scheme to tackle noise nuisance, which afflicts many of its council tenants, and has started to employ "professional witnesses" to collect evidence of noise.

Several cases backed up by these independent witnesses are pending. If the outcome is successful, other public and housing association sector landlords may benefit from adopting similar schemes.

SCRIVENOR

More law, pages 33, 35

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NO AGENCIES

Law Report March 16 1993 Court of Appeal

Balancing need for fair trial with requirement for open justice

Ex parte The Telegraph plc
Ex parte British Broadcasting Corporation
Ex parte Newspaper Publishing plc
Ex parte Slater
Ex parte C
Ex parte H
Ex parte M
Ex parte P

Before Lord Taylor of Gosforth, Lord Chief Justice, Mr Justice Auld and Mr Justice Curtis

[Reasons March 12]

The competing public considerations of ensuring a fair trial and of open justice were inevitably considered when a court formed a view whether it was necessary to avoid the risk that publication would create a substantial risk of prejudice to the administration of justice on determining an application under section 4(2) of the Contempt of Court Act 1981 for postponing publication of proceedings in a trial about to start.

The Court of Appeal so stated when giving reserved reasons for having varied on January 26 an order made at the Central Criminal Court by Judge Mitchell, QC, postponing publicity about certain proceedings in a trial of 11 defendants on 13 counts of various offences concerning a drug commonly known as "ecstasy" with a total value of £7,000,000.

The applications to vary the order were made under section 159(1) of the Criminal Justice Act 1988 by media, a personal defendant, Thomas Slater, and four other personal defendants, who were identified by initials only.

Section 4 of the 1981 Act provides: "(2) ... the court may, where it appears to be necessary for avoiding a substantial risk of prejudice to the administration of justice in ... any ... proceedings pending or imminent, order that the publication of any report of the proceedings, or any part of the proceedings, be postponed for such period as the court thinks necessary for that purpose."

Section 159 of the 1988 Act provides: "(1) A person aggrieved may appeal to the Court of Appeal, if that court grants leave, against — (a) an order under section 4 ... of the Contempt of Court Act 1981 made in relation to a trial on indictment ... (c) any order restricting the publication of any report of ... any part of a trial on indictment ... and the decision of the Court of Appeal shall be final."

The Court of Appeal placed no restriction on publication of the judgment giving their reserved reasons and made an order for payment of costs out of central funds to the media under section 159(5)(c) of the 1988 Act.

Mr Charles Gray, QC and Mr Richard Parkes for The Telegraph, BBC and Newspaper Publishing; Mr Ronald Thwaites, QC and Mr Ian Bourne for Thomas Slater; Mr David Bate for C; Mr Rudi Fortson for H; Miss Wendy Joseph and Mr Peter Grieves-Smith for M; Mr M. G. A. Massih and Mr Brian O'Neill for P; Mr Andrew Mitchell for the Crown.

THE LORD CHIEF JUSTICE, giving the reasons of the court, said that the prosecution case against all the defendants depended almost entirely on the evidence and credibility of an alleged accomplice, Peter Vukmirovic, who had earlier pleaded guilty to a charge of conspiracy unlawfully to produce the drugs involved in the case and awaited sentence for that offence.

He had a substantial criminal record of unlawful production and importation of drugs and was said to be a colourful character whose evidence would attract much public interest.

The judge had ordered separate trials of certain counts in the indictment because he considered that a single trial would be too onerous for a jury.

The effect was to split the trial into three seven of the defendants, including Slater but not including C, M, H and P were to be tried first in what would be the most important and newsworthy of the three trials. Then C and M were to be tried together; finally P and H were to be tried together.

C, M and P then applied to the judge for an order under section 4(2) to postpone reporting any of the proceedings until the conclusion of their respective trials.

The three media applicants opposed the making of so wide an order, arguing that it would be sufficient to order postponement of publication of the names of those defendants and of any material likely to identify them.

The judge had ordered postponement of:

1 Any legal submissions, rulings and evidence heard or given in the absence of the jury;

2 The names of each of the four defendants, C, H, M and P, who were to be tried later and any material calculated to identify them;

3 The name of the Crown witness, Vukmirovic, and any material calculated to identify him, in particular by reference to his addresses and background, including his criminal past;

4 Counsel's closing speeches, summing up and any questions by the jury thereafter.

The Court of Appeal, on January 26 had varied the judge's order to delete the restrictions in paragraphs 1, 3 and 4 above but, as to 1, indicated that the judge should consider any such question as it arose.

Section 4(2) contained two requirements for the making of a postponement order: (i) that publication would create "a substantial risk of prejudice to the administration of justice" and (ii) that postponement of publication "appears to be necessary for avoiding" that risk.

In forming a view whether it was necessary to make an order for avoiding such a risk the court would inevitably have regard to the competing public considerations of ensuring a fair trial and of open justice. The risk of prejudice to the administration of justice had to be "substantial". The second requirement of the necessity for an order was statutory recognition of the principle of open justice.

All parties to the appeals agreed that there would be a substantial risk of prejudice to the administration of justice in the subsequent trials of C, M, P and H if there were to be any reporting of proceedings in the first trial in the absence of the jury or of material identifying them.

Two other matters were in issue:

1 Whether publication of material identifying Vukmirovic would create such a risk of prejudice. The judge found it would in the event of guilty verdicts because wide publicity given to them in accounts identifying him as the principal prosecution witness could improperly enhance his credibility when he came to give evidence in later trials.

2 Whether the verdicts in the first trial should be reported before the conclusion of the later trials. The judge was of the view that they could be reported contemporaneously without risk of prejudice to the subsequent proceedings but that reporting of counsel's closing speeches and of the summing up could cause prejudice in the inevitable references to Vukmirovic's status as an accomplice and to his credibility which such speeches and summing up would contain.

The judge, having found that there would be substantial risk of prejudice to the administration of justice in those four respects, should have proceeded to the second requirement of section 4(2), namely, whether it was "necessary" to make an order for avoiding such a risk.

He did not do that. His approach was to investigate how the risk could be eliminated.

With the best of intentions, he had failed to keep distinct the two main requirements of section 4(2). Having identified the risk there would be unless certain restrictions were imposed, he should then have considered whether, in the light of the competing public interests to which he had referred, it was necessary for avoiding that risk to make the order, whether in his discretion he should make it and, if so, with all or only some of the restrictions sought. In their Lordships' view, his failure to adopt that approach led him into error.

The court's function on an appeal under section 159 of the 1988 Act was not simply to review the judge's ruling but to form its own view on the material put before it.

His Lordship reviewed the appeal submissions and stated that, in determining whether publication of matter would cause a substantial risk of prejudice to a future trial, a court should credit that jury with the will and ability to abide by the judge's direction to decide the case only on the evidence before them.

The court should also bear in mind that the staying power and detail of publicity, even in cases of notoriety, were limited and that the nature of a trial was to focus the jury's minds on the evidence put before them rather than on matters outside the courtroom.

In the present case, their Lordships should also approach the matter on the basis that in each trial the judge would direct the jury clearly and firmly about the danger of conviction on Vukmirovic's evidence if uncorroborated, that there would be no public reporting of the names of C, H, M or P or of any material likely to identify them and that, in compliance with section 4(1), each of the trials would be reported fairly and accurately. Having regard to all those considerations, their Lordships were of the view that there was only slight potential for prejudice flowing from such publicity as might be given to Vukmirovic's role and the verdicts of the first trial.

Much of the evidence relating to him was likely to be to his discredit rather than credit and was likely to be repeated and to form the subject of cross-examination of him in the subsequent trials. Their Lordships did not consider that the risk of prejudice respecting Vukmirovic's evidence was substantial.

The arguments of the media applicants on the issue of publicity were well founded.

The case was of importance and one in which there was a considerable and legitimate public interest because of the nature and quantity of the drug involved. It was the first major trial concerned with ecstasy.

Any prohibition of contemporaneous reporting of material likely to identify Vukmirovic and his role in the case would make it almost impossible to report. It would also be very difficult for the media to identify what could properly be reported. The public interest in open trial would, in any event, outweigh any possible risk, substantial or not, of prejudice that might result from publication of Vukmirovic's role.

Solicitors: Simon Olswang & Co, Westminster; Goldkorns, Southwark; Booth Bennett, Uxbridge; McGrath & Co, Westminster; Russell Jones & Walker, St Pancras; Christian Fisher & Co, Holborn; CPS, Inner London.

Effect of collusion on similar fact evidence

Regina v Ryder

Before Lord Taylor of Gosforth, Lord Chief Justice, Mr Justice Popplewell and Mr Justice Laws

[Judgment March 12]

Where the prosecution sought to adduce similar fact evidence and the defence raised the suggestion of collusion, the judge might find it necessary to hold a *voir dire* (trial within a trial).

The Court of Appeal, Criminal Division, so held in a reserved judgment allowing the appeal of David Robert Ryder against his conviction at Bristol Crown Court (Mr Justice Jowitt and a jury) on May 24, 1989 of rape and attempted buggery. His appeal against further convictions of rape, attempted rape, attempted buggery, theft and assault occasioning actual bodily harm was dismissed. The appellant was sentenced to life imprisonment.

The complainants were four prostitutes, two from town A and two from town B. An application to sever the indictment was refused. A fifth prostitute, from town B gave evidence of rape which was admitted on the basis of similar fact.

The appellant appealed, inter alia, on the grounds that the counts relating to town A should have been severed from the counts relating to town B and/or that the evidence should not have been treated as similar fact evidence.

Mr Anthony Arlidge, QC and Mr Richard Guy, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, for the appellant; Mr Christopher Leigh, QC, for the Crown.

THE LORD CHIEF JUSTICE, giving the judgment of the court, said that the appellant had argued that there might have been collusion within each group of prostitutes and that accordingly the similar fact evidence should either not have been admitted or not have been left to the jury because if there was any suggestion of collusion it was for the Crown to negative that possibility.

The rationale of similar fact evidence was that two or more people did not make up or mistakenly make similar allegations against the same person independently of each other.

In *R v Kilbourne* ([1973] AC 729, 750) Lord Reid had said: "If there is any real chance that there has been collusion between the makers of the two statements we should not accept them as corroborative."

Similar dicta were to be found in *R v Boardman* ([1975] AC 421); *R v Bedford* ((1990) 93 Cr App R 113) and *R v Brooks* ((1990) 92 Cr App R 36).

In *Cross on Evidence* (7th edition (1990) p365) it was submitted that "The admissibility of similar fact evidence of this type is likely to be just as damaging to the accused as that of a disputed confession, and it is appropriate to pursue an analogous course.

"So if the defence alleges some such concoction and adduces some credible evidence of it, the prosecution should be required to satisfy the judge on a *voir dire* that there is no real possibility that such concoction has occurred ... If the prosecution succeed on the *voir dire* the evidence should be admitted, but the defence remain free to attack its cogency, in much the same way as it remains free to attack the cogency of a confession admitted after a contested *voir dire*."

The court agreed with that view.

There were thus four possible situations. In identifying them, the court referred to collusion but it used that word to encompass not only deliberate but also unconscious influence of one witness by another.

First, where a real possibility of collusion was apparent to the judge on the face of the documents, he should not allow the similar fact evidence to be led.

Second, if a submission was made raising the suggestion of collusion the judge might find it necessary to hold a *voir dire*.

Third, if the evidence was admitted but at the end of the case the judge took the view that there was a real possibility of collusion he should tell the jury in summing-up not to use the evidence as corroboration.

Finally, even if the judge himself was of the view that there was no real possibility of collusion, but the matter had been argued, he should leave the issue to the jury.

The court, however, having considered the circumstances, had not been persuaded that the judge should have severed, or excluded the similar fact evidence, on the ground of any perceived possibility of collusion.

Solicitors: CPS, Bristol.

Tribunal had no power

Sunderland Polytechnic v Evans

Before Mr Justice Wood, Mrs T. Marsland and Mr T. Thomas

[Judgment March 8]

An industrial tribunal could not consider the lawfulness or otherwise of a deduction of a full day's pay from the wages of a polytechnic lecturer under section 1(5)(e) of the Wages Act 1986 for taking part in half a day's industrial action. Since there was no dispute as to the amount of wages deducted or the participation in the industrial action, the jurisdiction of the industrial tribunal was excluded.

The Employment Appeal Tribunal so held when allowing an appeal from the decision of a Newcastle upon Tyne industrial tribunal last March that it had jurisdiction to consider whether, on a complaint by Mrs Ann Evans that the polytechnic had made an unlawful deduction from her wages, the deduction was lawful.

Section 1 of the 1986 Act provides: "(5) Nothing in this section applies ... (e) to any deduction from a worker's wages made by his employer ... where the worker has taken part in a strike or other industrial action and the deduction is made ... by the employer on account of the worker's having taken part in that strike or other action..."

Mr Patrick Elias, QC, for the polytechnic; Mr Antony White for Mrs Evans.

MR JUSTICE WOOD said that the complainant was a lecturer in law at Sunderland Polytechnic. She took part in a half-day stoppage and a full day's pay was deducted from her wages. She applied to the industrial tribunal under the 1986 Act that the deduction was unlawful and that the correct deduction would have been half a day's pay.

In *Home Office v Ayres* ([1992] ICR 175), the appeal tribunal had held that the word "lawful" should be read into section 1(5)(a) before the word "deduction". If that was correct then "lawful" had to be read into section 1(5)(e).

Mr White argued that the industrial tribunal could look to see whether the deduction was linked to participation in industrial action. Since the calculation of the amount was not in issue nor that the participation in industrial action took place, it would follow that if only half a day's pay was deductible then the remainder of the sum deducted was unlawful.

Mr Elias submitted that an industrial tribunal should not be allowed to investigate the lawfulness of the amount, that the wording of section 1(5) was sufficiently clear on its face and that alternatively extracts from *Hansard* put the intention of Parliament beyond doubt.

The appeal tribunal supported Mr Elias's submissions. Some of the reasoning of the appeal tribunal in *Home Office v Ayres* could no longer stand. The appeal would be allowed.

Solicitors: Norton Rose; Michael Scott & Co.

Risk of contaminated evidence

Regina v Ananthanarayanan

Before Lord Justice Steyn, Mr Justice Rougier and Mr Justice Laws

[Judgment March 11]

It was for a judge, not a jury, to decide whether a real risk existed that potentially corroborative evidence was contaminated, since in carrying out that task he was doing no more nor less than deciding a question of admissibility. If he found such a risk existed, he had no discretion to let the evidence go to the jury as corroboration.

The Court of Appeal, Criminal Division, so held in allowing an appeal by Tinnevely Subramanian Ananthanarayanan against his conviction in October 1992 at Stoke-on-Trent Crown Court (Judge Orrell and a jury) of five counts of indecent assault.

Mr Anthony Barker, QC and Mr Bernard Thorogood for the appellant; Mr David Seconde for the Crown.

MR JUSTICE LAWS, giving the judgment of the court, said that the appellant was employed as a consultant psychiatrist specialising in the mental illness of old age.

The four complainants were nurses or care assistants with whom he came into contact at hospitals or old peoples' homes.

At the trial the judge directed the jury that the evidence of the complainants was capable of offering mutual corroboration. Counsel for the appellant submitted that he ought not so to have directed the jury because there was a real risk that any one of the complainant's accounts might have been contaminated by any other.

The basis for that submission was first that in large measure the women's complaints were first made at the same time one with another and that, save for one case, they were made at a considerable distance of time after the events were alleged to have taken place.

Such circumstances gave rise to a real possibility, at least, that the complaints which formed the basis of the prosecution case before the jury, were not truly independent of one another.

There was no doubt, on the authorities, that if there existed a "real risk" or "real possibility" that the evidence of one complainant might have been contaminated by that of another, there could be no mutual corroboration between them.

The question starkly raised was whether it was for the judge or the jury to decide whether such a risk existed. That being so, the answer depended upon a correct analysis of their respective roles.

Elementarily, it was always the judge's function to decide what evidence was admissible before the jury, and the jury's function to decide what facts to find on that evidence. In principle, therefore, where a question of admissibility depended upon the resolution of an issue of fact, it was for the judge to resolve it.

There was no reason why that same principle should not apply when the question was whether there was a real risk that similar fact evidence might not be truly independent of the evidence which otherwise it might corroborate.

The value of potentially corroborative evidence of that kind critically depended upon its being independent of the complaint sought to be corroborated. If it was not independent it could not qualify as corroboration.

The test of independence for that purpose was not whether contamination was proved but whether there was a real risk of contamination.

It followed that where such a risk existed the evidence was not admissible as corroboration. It had, therefore, to be the judge's task to decide whether the risk existed. In carrying out that task, he was doing no more nor less than deciding a question of admissibility.

In the present case the judge should not have allowed the jury to proceed to their task on the basis that the evidence of the women was capable of being mutually corroborative.

Accordingly, the convictions could not stand and the appeal would be allowed.

Solicitors: Sankeys, Stoke-on-Trent; CPS, Stoke-on-Trent.

Immune consular official not deemed to be outside UK

Regina v Jiminez-Paez

A consular official who was unwilling to give evidence in a criminal trial was not, by virtue of her diplomatic status which might make her immune to the process, deemed to be outside the United Kingdom for the purposes of section 23(2)(b)(i) of the Criminal Justice Act 1988.

The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Russell, Mr Justice Morland and Mr Justice Mantell) so stated on February 23 when dismissing the appeal of Carmenza Jiminez-Paez from her conviction on June 25, 1992 at Isleworth Crown Court (Mr Recorder Badenoch, QC and a jury) of unlawfully importing 564gm of cocaine into the United Kingdom.

LORD JUSTICE RUSSELL said that the appellant, a native of Colombia, gave evidence that she thought she was smuggling emeralds. Counsel sought to introduce in evidence a letter from a consular official asserting that a black market in emeralds existed in Colombia and one of the most usual methods of export was by the type of internal concealment used by the appellant.

When objection was taken to the production of the letter it was submitted that because of the writer's status she was immune to process and therefore at all times "outside the United Kingdom" so that her letter was admissible in evidence.

In their Lordships' judgment the words used in the subsection were plain and its purpose was clear.

It contained two quite separate requirements, the first of a territorial nature requiring the physical presence outside the United Kingdom, and the second concerning the practicability of securing attendance.

To contend that the witness was outside the United Kingdom when physically at all times she was in the United Kingdom did not give any effect at all to what Parliament intended.

Forgetfulness is no excuse for absence

Regina v Lennock

Before Lord Justice Russell, Mr Justice Morland and Mr Justice Mantell

[Judgment March 5]

Where a witness order had been issued in compliance with the statutory requirements, it was an absolute offence to disobey it subject only to the words "without just excuse" contained in section 3(1) of the Criminal Procedure (Attendance of Witnesses) Act 1965. Culpable forgetfulness could never amount to a "just excuse".

The Court of Appeal (Criminal Division) so held in dismissing an appeal under section 13 of the Administration of Justice Act 1960 by Ian Charles Lennock against a finding of contempt of court at Guildford Crown Court (Judge Rubin) in October 1991 for which he was fined £100 with seven days' imprisonment in default.

Section 3 of the 1965 Act provides: "(1) Any person who without just excuse disobeys a witness order ... requiring him to attend before any court shall be guilty of contempt of that court and may be punished summarily by that court as if his contempt had been committed in the face of the court."

Mr John McGuinness for the appellant; Mr Philip Havers as *amicus curiae*.

MR JUSTICE MORLAND, giving the judgment of the court, said that the appellant, a police officer, was a fully bound witness in a trial due to commence on September 30, 1991.

The appellant forgot to appear at the trial and in the subsequent contempt proceedings the judge found that contempt was established owing to that failure to attend.

On appeal, Mr McGuinness argued that "disobeys" in section 3(1) of the 1965 Act should be read as wilful or deliberate. In their Lordships' opinion that was an erroneous reading of the section and would destroy the purpose of the section which was to secure the attendance of witnesses in court.

It was an absolute offence subject to the qualification given by the express words of section 3(1) "without just excuse". If there was evidence accepted by the judge hearing the contempt proceedings which gave rise to a just excuse he would not find contempt proved.

In this case the appellant was at fault and his forgetfulness was clearly culpable. There was ample evidence that contempt was proved and that there was no just excuse, even though the judge was not referred to the actual words of the section. The appeal was dismissed with costs.

Solicitors: Russell Jones & Walker; Treasury Solicitor.

Jurisdiction to review sentence on youth

Regina v W

Before Lord Taylor of Gosforth, Lord Chief Justice, Mr Justice Henry and Mr Justice Blofeld

[Judgment March 11]

Although a person aged under 18 who was charged with rape might be tried summarily in some circumstances, rape was an offence triable only on indictment for the purposes of section 35(3)(a) of the Criminal Justice Act 1988. Accordingly, the Court of Appeal, Criminal Division, had jurisdiction to entertain an application by the Attorney-General, pursuant to section 36 of the 1988 Act, in respect of a sentence which he regarded as unduly lenient, which had been imposed on an offender aged 15 on his conviction of rape and indecent assault.

The Court of Appeal so held when quashing a sentence imposed on February 5, 1992 by Judge Prosser, QC, in Newport Crown Court. The offender had been made subject to a supervision order for three years, with a condition that he attend a specified activities programme and his parents were ordered to pay £500 compensation to the complainant.

Mr Patrick Harrington for the defendant; Mr John Nutting, who did not appear below, for the Attorney-General.

THE LORD CHIEF JUSTICE said, on the preliminary point on jurisdiction, that it was argued that since under section 24 of the Magistrates' Courts Act 1980, as amended, a person under 18 charged with an indictable offence other than homicide should be tried summarily except in specified circumstances, any such offence could not be "an offence triable only on indictment".

The basic fallacy in that submission was that it was approached by consideration of the offender rather than the offence.

In their Lordships' judgment, rape was an offence triable on indictment, and the Attorney-General was entitled to refer the sentence to the court.

Their Lordships understood the reluctance of the trial judge, after strong recommendations for community sentence from the probation service, to impose a custodial sentence. His approach did not deserve the vilification to which he had been subjected.

However, a non-custodial sentence was simply not tenable in this case.

The whole sentence passed would be quashed and for it would be substituted detention for two years, pursuant to section 53(2) of the Children and Young Persons Act 1953 for the rape. No separate order would be made in respect of the indecent assault.

Solicitors: Harding Evans, Newport (Gwent); CPS, HQ.

Duty to investigate offences

Regina v Bayliss

The duty of investigating offences was not restricted to the officers of central government or to other persons acting under statutory powers. It was also possible for a store detective to be a person "charged with the duty of investigating offences" within section 67(9) of the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984.

The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Neill, Mr Justice Tudor Evans and Mr Justice Clarke) so held on February 19 in dismissing an appeal by Roy Alfred Bayliss against his conviction in August 1991 at Wood Green Crown Court (Judge Finney) of theft.

LORD JUSTICE NEILL said that it was a question of fact in each case whether or not a particular individual fell within section 67(9). Those who employed store detectives and similar security officers might wish to consider carefully what duties their employees were to undertake.

In some cases private prosecutions would be launched on the basis of investigations carried out by company employees. In other cases, after observation of a possible offence, the task of investigation would be left entirely to the police. There might be a wide range of possible circumstances which would have to be looked at on a case-by-case basis.

Appealing refusal of extension of time

Regalbourne Ltd v East Lindsey District Council

Before Sir Thomas Bingham, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Kennedy and Lord Justice Evans

[Judgment March 9]

The principles governing the grant or refusal of an application to dismiss an action for want of prosecution did not govern an application to extend the time for appealing from the decision of a statutory tribunal in a public law context where the applicant had failed to exercise his right of appeal within the period prescribed by regulation.

The Court of Appeal so stated dismissing an appeal by the plaintiffs, Regalbourne Ltd, from Mr Justice Potts who had refused their application for an extension of time for appealing from the decision of the East Lindsey Valuation and Community Charge Tribunal. Under regulation 32(2) of the Valuation and Community Charge Tribunals Regulations (SI 1989 No 439) an appeal might be dismissed if it were not brought within 28 days of the date of the decision.

Mr Thomas Lowe for the plaintiffs; Mr Charles Bear for the defendants.

LORD JUSTICE KENNEDY referred to Mr Lowe's argument that the guidance given by the Master of the Rolls in *Costellow v Somerset County Council* (*The Times* November 25, 1992; [1993] 1 WLR 256) provided the appropriate approach to be adopted on the present application. Mr Lowe acknowledged that the observations of Lord Guest in *Ramam v Cumarasamy* ([1965] 1 WLR 8, 12) that the court's approach was more likely to be restrictive after there had been a hearing, presented difficulties for his argument.

His Lordship rejected Mr Lowe's submissions. The proper approach was that regulation 32(2) was complementary to Order 55, rule 4 and Order 3, rule 5 of the Rules of the Supreme Court.

The combined effect was that the plaintiffs' right to appeal existed for only 28 days after the tribunal had made its decision. Thereafter that right could be revived or extended only if the court was prepared to extend time under Order 3, rule 5 and it would be slow to do so: see *Smith v Secretary of State for the Environment* (*The Times* July 6, 1987; CA (Civil) Transcript No 630).

The position was therefore different from an application to dismiss for want of prosecution or to strike out for failure to take some step in the action. In those situations the court was asked to intervene to deprive a party of an existing right to proceed to trial and to prevent any trial from taking place.

In the absence of agreement, before the court would consider exercising its discretion to extend time under Order 3, rule 5 it would normally need to be satisfied that there was an acceptable explanation for the delay. If there was none the question of prejudice was unlikely to arise.

If there was an acceptable explanation, the court might still refuse to extend time, if the delay was substantial or if to do so would cause significant prejudice to the respondent.

In any event as, in the interests of good administration, public law challenges to decisions of tribunals were to be made within a limited time-scale the courts would always be reluctant to extend time in such a situation.

Obviously, if time were not extended the potential appellant was prejudiced, particularly where the intended appeal had good prospects of success, but in most cases that was unlikely to be of great weight.

He would dismiss the appeal.

Lord Justice Evans delivered a concurring judgment.

THE MASTER OF THE ROLLS said that in giving guidance in *Costellow's* case he had not had in mind or regarded his judgment as applicable to an application for leave to apply out of time, let alone an application for extension of time to appeal from the decision of a statutory tribunal in a public law context.

The same principles did not apply in all those situations. In the present case the plaintiffs' challenge was to the decision of a statutory tribunal. They had not complied with the clear and short time limit. In that context the reasonable requirements of public administration had a significance which was absent in ordinary *inter partes* litigation.

By contrast, prejudice might assume a rather smaller significance, but most importantly, there was a different statutory framework and the court had to give effect to the intention of Parliament in the particular context before it.

While his Lordship was reluctant to lay down a rule that in the present context leave to extend time would never be granted in the absence of a satisfactory explanation for the delay, the judge's exercise of discretion could not be impugned.

Solicitors: F. H. Bright & Sons, Witham; Wilkin & Chapman, Grimsby.

Police grievance procedure documents not protected

Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis v Locker

Before Mr Justice Knox, Miss C. Holroyd and Mr P. Smith

[Judgment March 10]

Public interest immunity did not attach to statements made during the course of the Metropolitan Police grievance procedure.

The Employment Appeal Tribunal so held in dismissing an appeal by the Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis from a decision of a London industrial tribunal on July 6, 1992, ordering disclosure of such statements in proceedings by the applicant, Mrs Sarah Locker, against the commissioner under the Sex Discrimination Act 1975 and the Race Relations Act 1976.

Mr Paul Goulding for the commissioner; Miss Vivienne Gay for Mrs Locker.

MR JUSTICE KNOX said that, at almost the same time as Mrs Locker, a police officer since 1980, had presented a complaint of racial and sexual discrimination in relation to her application for a post as a CID officer, she initiated an internal grievance procedure.

That procedure had been established by a special police order and was specifically designed to cover grievances of discrimination which was unlawful either under the Sex Discrimination Act 1975 or the Race Relations Act 1976.

In *Neilson v Laugharne* ([1981] 1 QB 736, 752) Lord Justice Oliver identified the true test of public interest immunity as whether the production of the documents in issue was likely to impede the carrying out of the public statutory purpose for which they were brought into existence.

The documents involved in that case had been generated in the course of a complaints procedure under section 49 of the Police Act 1964 and Lord Justice Oliver found they satisfied the test.

The central issue in the present appeal was, therefore, whether the grievance procedure differed in principle from the police disciplinary and complaints procedures.

A feature which weighed heavily in the industrial tribunal was that, in view of a comment in the special police order, those dealing with grievance procedures were aware that statements made could be used in industrial tribunal proceedings.

The appeal tribunal did not find that to be of any great weight because the question to be answered was whether the class of documents was by virtue of the nature of the procedure in which they were generated of a type to which class protection attached. Foreseeability of disclosure was not critical to that issue.

The tribunal had reached the conclusion that the grievance procedure differed sufficiently from the disciplinary and complains procedures to make *Neilson v Laugharne* distinguishable.

The principal difference was that the complaints and disciplinary procedures were statutory processes intended to punish and deter wrongdoers, whereas the grievance procedure was purely internal, set up with the approval of such bodies as the Equal Opportunities Commission and the Commission for Racial Equality. Its purpose was more concerned with promoting non-discriminatory practices and securing remedies for victims than with punishing offenders.

In addition the grievance procedure had parallels in other organisations where exactly the same laudable objects were pursued without there being any question of public interest immunity.

The special position of the police seemed to reside in the exceptional importance of honesty and propriety in the dealings between the police and the public, hence the more stringent codes imposed on the police than on other public services.

There was, however, no such higher requirement imposed on the police in matters of sex and racial discrimination. In those fields the police were treated in much the same way as other employers.

Special statutory provisions were centred on the need for discipline and integrity rather than on any particular need to eradicate discrimination.

Industrial tribunal proceedings were not alien proceedings in the context of the grievance procedure.

The whole scheme of the grievance procedure was set up with an eye to industrial tribunal proceedings and in contemplation of their availability to a complainant.

Finally, the question arose whether the balance struck by the industrial tribunal between the public interest in the administration of justice in securing that all relevant material was before the tribunal and the public interest in the proper functioning of the police was vitiated by an error of law.

The industrial tribunal had said that the class of documents protected by public interest immunity should not be enlarged unless essential in the interest of the public and necessary for the proper functioning of public service.

That was the correct test, and the appeal tribunal saw no error of law in the balance struck by the industrial tribunal.

Solicitors: Solicitor, Metropolitan Police; Deighton Guedalla.

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Figuring out compensation

David Foskett, QC, reports on moves to reform personal injury awards

How should damages for an accident victim be awarded? Should they be given in the traditional lump sum, or in a series of payments made throughout the victim's life?

These questions are under scrutiny by the Law Commission, the government's law reform body: responses to the first of the commission's consultation papers dealing with damages for personal injuries must be submitted by April.

A problem in any system for the evaluation of non-reviewable damages is the need to make accurate forecasts about a claimant's future. In many cases in which the claimant is very seriously injured and incapacitated, one of the most important yet troubling forecasts concerns his or her life expectancy.

Since the law requires that a claimant be compensated only to the extent that is reasonably necessary, and for the period that he or she suffers the disability, a victim whose life expectancy has been reduced will receive less compensation than will a victim whose life expectancy is undiminished.

For the grievously injured claimant, the cost of his or her future care is often one of the most significant elements in the overall claim. This may cover the need to provide paid carers to assist in the family home, or to pay for a suitable institutional regime, or a combination of the two.

The annual cost of providing this level of care is enormous, so this part of a claim is of great concern to both the claimant and the insurance company or the health authority ultimately responsible for meeting the award. In a case where the issue of a reduced life expectancy arises, those advising the parties — or, indeed, the judge deciding the case if it is not settled — have the serious difficulty of assessing the quality of the medical evidence available.

> Medical experts, lawyers and judges often have to pluck figures from the air

Many lawyers acting in this field can recount stories of cases in which widely differing forecasts were made about the life expectancy of a claimant.

In a serious brain damage case just over ten years ago, Mr Justice Michael Davies pleaded for the provision of funds for appropriate research so that better forecasts could be made.

Things have not moved much further forward since. Medical experts, lawyers and judges have to do a great deal of plucking of figures from the air and splitting the difference between medical views.

This kind of rough justice can lead to real hardship, particularly if the claimant outlives the life expectancy which is chosen as the basis for assessing future losses and costs. That cannot be right, humane or just.

In a case decided in July 1987, Mr Justice (now Lord Justice) Hirst drew attention to the need for reform of the law in this area. He suggested that there might be scope for continuous assessment of need in cases of this nature.

Since 1987, many of the more substantial awards of damages have been made the subject of a structured settlement.

By this method, part of the award made is used to purchase annuities in a way that provides the claimant with a tax-free income for life. To this extent, the money never runs out, even if the claimant lives a lot longer than expected.

However, this does not provide the full answer to the problem because the amount available to be placed into the "structured settlement" is, as the Law Commission records in its current paper, still largely determined by how much the award of damages is or would be on the conventional lump sum approach.

The conventional approach involves assessing the claimant's life expectancy in the uncertain and unsatisfactory way described earlier in this article.

Finality in litigation is a worthwhile objective. The once-for-all assessment of damages achieves it. However, the occasional exception to the principle is warranted when justice demands it. The jurisdiction to review an award of damages, whether structured or otherwise, when a claimant outlives the reduced lifespan upon which the award is based must represent a small price to pay for achieving justice and proper compensation in an individual case. It is to be hoped that the Law Commission will recommend a mechanism to achieve this.



BRYN COLTON

Heidi Everett, who was awarded £8.9 million as compensation for road-accident injuries

Two thousand Lloyd's names go to court

One of the biggest actions in English legal history is under way

Writs have been issued by Lloyd's names against their agents in what is one of the largest actions in English legal history in terms of numbers of individual plaintiffs and defendants.

The 2,145 names, whose assets support underwriting at Lloyd's, are members of the Gooda Walker syndicates. The Gooda Walker Action Group, on behalf of the names, is suing 67 members' agents who placed them with syndicates that lost £396 million. It has raised £4 million to bring the case.

The action alleges grossly negligent underwriting by Gooda Walker syndicates 164, 290, 298 and 299. Philip Rocher, partner of Wilde Sapte, solicitor for the Gooda Walker Action Group, says there is every chance the action will go to judgment because an out-of-court settlement seems increasingly unlikely.

The members' agents defending the action took compulsory errors and omissions (E & O) insurance, mostly with Lloyd's syndicates. A court ruling against the members' agents would mean the E & O insurers stand to pay out a substantial proportion of the plaintiffs' claims.

Mr Rocher says the members' agents are not entirely covered by E & O insurance and the potential consequences of the action are dire. "Some of the claims are big enough to bankrupt the agencies," he adds.

Michael Deeny, accountant and rock music promoter who chairs the Gooda Walker Action Group, suggests that a judgment would encourage other action groups alleging negligence to litigate.

He says the E & O insurers may well say that this is more than they could be legally obliged to pay.

The action group has recently harboured internal disputes about whether committee members should be entitled to part of the damages if the action succeeds. This will now be decided by an independent comittee.

ALEXANDER DAVIDSON

Fast movers in a new market

New markets for lawyers are rare these days but one that is about to explode with potential is education. The incorporation of about 300 further education and sixth form colleges, each of which will need a legal adviser, has created a demand for legal advice where none existed. The umbrella provided by local authorities' legal departments has been mostly removed and the colleges' new governing bodies must fend for themselves.

But the message to any solicitors about to make a sales pitch to the local college principal has to be: "Don't waste your time". This virgin territory has already been staked out with lightning speed by a small number of firms.

A typical success story is told by Blake Lapthorn, a south-coast firm with a strong regional following. It already acts for Portsmouth University and so was a natural choice for a number of further education colleges in the southern counties as they searched for legal advisers.



Foresight: John Hall

But although Blake Lapthorn and several other firms have had some success, this new market has been an important test bed for the client appeal of that new hybrid — the national firm with a regional, rather than a metropolitan, identity.

Over the past few months, as firms have battled their way through countless "beauty parades", the outfit that appears to have succeeded spectacularly is Eversheds. Merged last year from a mix of strong local firms from Newcastle to Cardiff, Eversheds offers the perfect solution for further education colleges, which want to be sure about what they are buying.

Combining strong local affiliations with the resources and credibility of a national firm, Eversheds could provide governing bodies — increasingly made up of business people and accountants — with the comfort factor they need during a tense transition period.

The result is that in the final run-up period to incorporation, Eversheds has managed to pick up an impressive 20 per cent of available clients. As Victor Semmens, its chairman, comments, "This is something we saw as an important emerging market, which we would be ideally placed to enter. Our success is a tribute to the quality of our preparation."

The firm's progress has been in the teeth of strong opposition. For example, Nabarro Nathanson, the West End firm, has a strong education team and an established following in higher education; several universities and some Oxford and Cambridge colleges are already on its books. Howard Rogg, a consultant to Nabarro's education group, says: "Competition is ferocious and the colleges are very concerned about costs."

One London firm that has fared well is Wedlake Saint, which has been appointed legal adviser to about 30 colleges. It has also had the foresight to spot the potential and build expertise in the issues facing the education sector.

John Hall, the head of Wedlake Saint's education law department, saw the potential in the late 1980s when polytechnics went through a similar process. Wedlake Saint won much credibility from the new-style educational managers, and Mr Hall was appointed company secretary by the Industrial Relations Association, the colleges' employer forum, which attracted individual colleges as clients. Half of the firm's 40 lawyers now work on educational matters.

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Franchising warning as optimism picks up

A WARNING to would-be franchisees contemplating their first move into franchising has gone out, as the latest annual survey of the industry has shown it still holding up comparatively well during the recession.

Franchising turnover is put at £4.5 billion last year, a 5.7 per cent decline on the year before, according to the 1992 franchise survey carried out for the British Franchise Association and sponsored by National Westminster Bank.

The failure rate of franchised units was 7.4 per cent, up from the previous year's 7.2 per cent. Peter Stern, head of NatWest's franchise section, said: "The outlook for franchising is increasingly optimistic. More franchisees (78 per cent compared with 70 per cent in 1991) say that they are trading at a profit."

Nearly a fifth of franchise companies now have operations outside Britain, mainly in mainland Europe. More than half plan European operations within five years.

The warning to newcomers to franchising was aimed at those planning to visit the National Franchise Exhibition at Olympia, in London, on March 26-28. It came from Mr Stern, who urged them to make full inquiries about franchisors and not to be browbeaten into taking on a franchise.

Potential franchisees should demand copies of a franchisor's accounts for the previous financial year, said Mr Stern. These should be available within six months of the year end. Where the franchise is new, accounts should be available for the pilot operation that any sensible franchisor will have run. The franchisor should also be able to provide a bank reference.

Mr Stern stresses the importance of fully checking financial information. He suggests checking all marketing, research and sales forecasts independently and considering whether sales forecasts are realistic in the current economic situation.

He reminds franchisees to obtain advice from a solicitor, an accountant and a banker before making a commitment and adds: "Do not allow yourself to be rushed. Avoid the hard sell. Shop around. Keep an open mind as long as possible."



"I can assure you we're full of concern and understanding for the plight of small businesses."

Hi-tech for the disadvantaged

BY WIDGET FINN

THERE is a link between Spitting Image puppets, fruit picking robots and wheelchairs for quadriplegic people. It is the Flexator, a pneumatic actuator invented by Jim Hennequin and developed through Airmuscle, his company. Mr Hennequin self-deprecatingly describes himself as "everybody's idea of the mad inventor, down to the white beard and sandals".

However, he combines an inventive mind with sound commercial sense. An engineer by training, he had a career in sales and marketing and ran a company for the Dowty Group before, in his forties, becoming a full-time inventor.

Mr Hennequin told his fellow board directors at Dowty about his actuator idea but they thought it would never work. Nevertheless he and his wife, Yvonne, finance director, remained convinced that it had commercial applications as well as offering help for disabled people.

Mr Hennequin believes that all industry should share its technology with the disadvantaged. Thus, when Airmuscle was formed in 1986, so was Inventaid, a sister company, to concentrate on developing aids for the disabled. As Airmuscle brings in profits by exploiting Hennequin inventions, a proportion is used to support Inventaid, a registered charity that has also attracted support from Comic Relief and Aspire, the charity for those with spinal injuries. Pearl Assurance recently gave a research grant. The Hennequins set up in business with £600 of their own money and growth has been funded out of profits. The actuator was developed with Spitting Image for use as an animation system for their puppets when used in an exhibition context. The same principle is used for the motion platforms of flight training simulators, fruit-picking robots and wheelchair robotics.

Mr Hennequin said: "Through Inventaid we have focused on the problems of quadriplegic people who can often only move their tongue, eyes and head. We developed a wheelchair-mounted robotic system controlled by a radio-link device fitted to the upper teeth and controlled by the tongue."

The wheelchair robot, now being made by disabled people at Papworth Industries, cost £40,000 to develop and sells for under £5,000. Its only competitor, made in Holland with cash backing from the French government, costs more than six times as much.

The tongue controller, which it is hoped will cost less than £1,000 to retail, was the inspiration of Dr Robin Platts. He is a trustee of Inventaid and a consultant in orthotics.

Teletact is another creation. It is a special glove enabling a person to feel "objects" created by computer that do not physically exist. It has broad commercial applications, such as with mine and bomb handling, but can also provide tactile feedback for paralysed people.

PETER TREVINOR



Tactile feedback: Jim Hennequin wears his Teletact glove

BRIEFINGS

North Devon, which has been fighting declines in tourism and farming, is getting a boost for small businesses. A series of evening workshops is being mounted by Devon and Cornwall Training and Enterprise Council (Tec). About 300 small businesses have signalled interest. Financial awareness, management techniques, customer care and marketing are on the agenda. Tonight there are twin sessions in Ilfracombe, with a similar format tomorrow night at South Molton. Next Monday, March 22, an evening session at Holsworthy (which is also aimed at Bude businesses) will be followed by Torrington on the Tuesday and Bideford the following night. Another initiative is aimed at boosting tourism. Details: Devon and Cornwall Tec: telephone 0752 767929; fax 0752 770925.

☐ Professor Sir Roland Smith, the former British Aerospace chairman and now chairman of Hepworth and Readicut International as well as a Bank of England director, will be among speakers at a one-day conference at Markyate, in Hertfordshire on April 21, exploring how businesses can switch from a survival strategy to one aimed at growth. The state of the venture capital market, factoring and business "angels" — all possible sources of financing — will be explored. The conference is being organised by GMS Executive Leasing, 48 High Street North, Dunstable, Bedfordshire LU6 1LA: telephone 0582 666970.

EDITOR DEREK HARRIS

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Westminster City Council is one of a small number of local authorities invited by the Government to pilot competitive tendering of housing management services. The City Council is now at the stage of inviting suitably experienced companies/organisations to express an interest in applying for inclusion on an Approved List of tenderers to provide housing management services.
Initially, there will be two contracts each expected to run for a period of 3 years commencing in early 1994. Two estate management areas have been selected for these pilot phase contracts: Churchill Gardens SW1 (1800 homes) and Paddington Green W2 (1200 homes). Services to be provided are likely to include recovery of rent arrears and service charge arrears, management of small breakdown repairs and other service contracts, tenancy/lease enforcement and resident consultation.
All parties wishing to be considered for inclusion on the Approved List of tenderers should submit a written request to: Mr V Bayliss, Assistant Divisional Director (Housing Management), Westminster City Council, Housing Department, Room 5.11, 83 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0HW by no later than noon on 16 April 1993. (Telephone 071 798 2612 or fax 071 798 5252).
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The service to be provided is not reserved by law, regulation or administrative provision to a particular profession.
The service provider may not tender for part of the services concerned save as may be indicated in the tender documentation.
It is anticipated that all companies on the Approved List will be invited to submit formal tenders.
Invitations to tender will be dispatched to selected applicants by 31 July 1993.
The contract will be awarded on the basis of quality criteria to be set out in the invitation to tender, experience, price and compatibility with residents' requirements.
Companies wishing to apply for inclusion on the Approved List of tenderers for the above mentioned works should include with their initial written application:
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2. Name and address of the company's bankers (to include details of the parent company's bankers, if different).
3. Name and addresses of three referees from whom references may be sought regarding the company's experience and ability to undertake such work.
4. A statement showing a list of other relevant work carried out over the last three years including contract dates, values and client names.
5. A set of audited accounts for the last three years (if a subsidiary company, submit these as well as consolidated accounts).
6. A company/organization structure giving a synopsis of the senior management team including the named manager heading the tender submission.
7. Any other information considered relevant.

Date of this Notice:
5 March 1993

حكذا من الأصل



MUSIC page 38
Mstislav Rostropovich conducts a memorable concert performance of Britten's Peter Grimes

ARTS

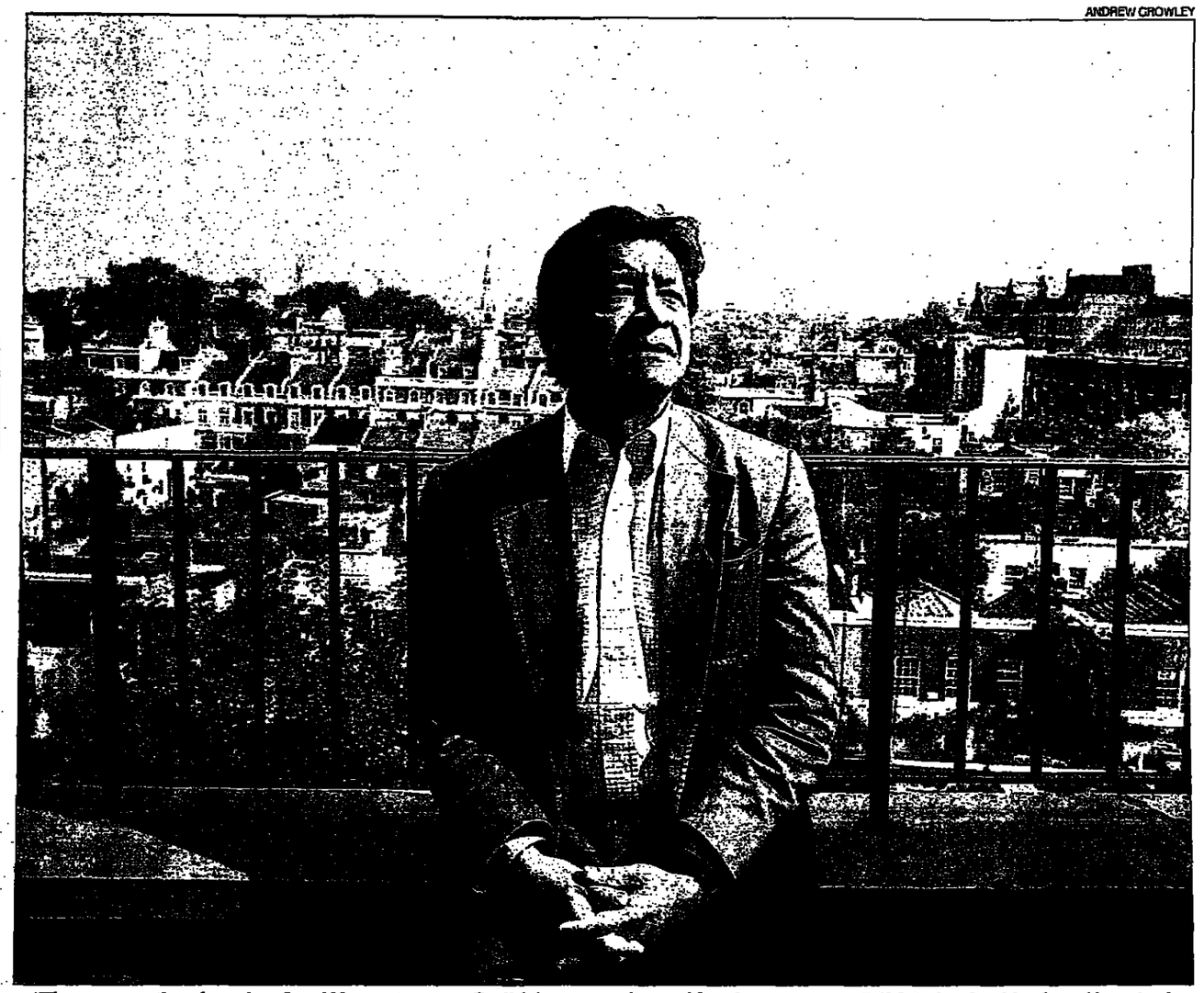
THEATRE page 39
Sara Kestelman plays a flighty cleaner in David Mamet's unsatisfactory early work, Squirrels



V.S. Naipaul, winner of the first David Cohen British Literature Prize, explains its significance for him

A language of the world and for the world

ANDREW CROWLEY



"There was no other place where I could have set up as an English-language writer, and found encouragement": V.S. Naipaul on his adopted homeland

LAST night the first David Cohen British Literature Prize was awarded to the Trinidadian *novelist* V.S. Naipaul. The prize, worth £30,000 and given in association with Coutts & Co. is the biggest literary award in Britain, and recognises a "lifetime's achievement by a living British writer". Another £10,000 has been made available by the Arts Council to enable the winner to commission new writing.

Sir Vidiadhar Surajprasad Naipaul, 60, came to Britain to study at Oxford University in 1950. He has lived here ever since, producing criticism, journalism and travel writing, as well as a string of superb novels on the theme of post-colonial life. The best-known is probably *A House for Mr Biswas*, written in 1961. Naipaul's acceptance speech, which we publish below, dwelt on the way in which different cultures have mingled, often in surprising ways, and ultimately revitalised English literature.

I know very well that there has been an element of luck in my receiving the British Literature Prize. The prize that has been given to me could have been given to many others — I thought myself of two names when I was told about the prize and its large purpose. I thought of Anthony Powell and Harold Pinter: one man finding a way of dealing with accumulations of experience through the changes of the century; the other apparently narrower, but also more lyrical, finding the exposed nerve ends we all continue to have. Opposed talents, it might appear, but also aspects of the sensibility of our time.

At a certain stage there is no real competition between writers, since every serious writer has his own concerns, makes his own explorations, and (with luck) finds his own audience. To twist the famous quotation: every writer is at once an island and part of the main: entirely of himself and part of the general flow.

But my luck pleases me. I like the name of the prize, first of all, because this writing career of mine has been conducted in Britain. Writing is more than a matter of spirit. A book is a physical, commercial object. It requires a well-organised society. If you are going to make a living as a writer you need publishers, reviewers, bookshops, libraries, a public looking for new work: a book trade.

When I was starting, in the mid-1950s, there was no other place where I could have set up as an English-language writer, and found encouragement. It is, of course, different now. So as a writer I was separated, and sometimes deeply separated, from my background — if you take Trinidad as my direct background and India as my ancestral background.

This separation helped with the early books. They dealt with the past: a complete, limited experience. The way ahead was less clear. Adult experience seemed formless. It is so for others as well, but for me there was also an internal pressure to stay with the past, the smaller world. And even when I saw that my English experience had become as much my material as the other, and that there was also India to look at and write about, and Africa, and other places, I was not sure how I could add these new layers, while always making a whole of my experience.

The English language came with a literature, with certain forms. The forms helped when I was writing about the smaller, complete world, but they didn't help at all when I was trying to get at the true nature of my wider experience.

> Every writer is at once entirely of himself and part of the general flow

I have always felt the need, for example, to establish the identity of the writer, the narrator, the gatherer of impressions: to make the point that, whatever associations came with the language, this English-language traveller in the world was not English but colonial, and carried different pictures in his head.

If I were starting today I would have no sense of anomaly, because there are now so many colonial English-language writers. But I am talking of 30 years ago. This is a very rough, elided account of what was a constant creative anxiety for many years. I give it here to say how glad I am that the prize seeks to acknowledge all of a writer's work rather than a single book, and that it does not lift one literary form above another. In my mind I have made a long journey; bits of the record are scattered through the books I have written; no one book or one kind of book is true to the effort.

In the modern period the rendering of reality has always been an issue. Judgments and forms have constantly varied. Hazlitt (who died in 1830) thought that Byron's personality display obscured the world. Scott was the truer writer, he said, because Scott did not stand between the reader and the world.

To render the truth of his own life Hazlitt had only the essay. It wasn't enough. The novelists who came after used the novel form to get at truths the essay could not get at, truths about society and mental states, for instance.

The great novels of the 19th century still have this quality of truth; and part of their excitement is that the writers can be felt to be writing about certain things for the first time. They were not versions of what had gone before, and novels like them cannot be done again.

Form and content go together. You cannot simply pour new experience or new material into an old form; that is not only to write somebody else's book all over again, it is also to falsify the material.

The traditional novel never really existed; good work was always new. Reality always has to be captured. Methods will change as the world changes. Everyone will find his own way. So there is no tradition of form that comes with the language. The tradition that does come, from the 19th century, is a moral one. It is the striving after truth, the hard look at the world, and its effect is subversive. That may be too strong a word, but many of the great original writers of the 19th century and this have helped to undermine and remake their civilisation. The ideal of truth as revolution is well described by Leonard Woolf in his account of his time at Cambridge in the 1890s.

The idea, inevitably, spread out of Britain. It did so in at least one extraordinary way. Gandhi was not a great reader — though I once read somewhere that in 1942, at the time of the "Quit India" campaign, somebody saw him one day reading *How Green Was My Valley*. Anyway, this is a story from 1904. Gandhi is 35. He is in South Africa, and has been there for ten years, working among the Indian community on what I suppose can be called civil rights.

At this stage, stubbornness is his principal virtue. He has no political dogma; he has read too little for that. Every situation is new and at every step he has to think very hard about what he should do. He has developed an idea of being good, but he doesn't know as yet how he might express this in his way of life.

He is going this evening from Johannesburg to Durban, and Polak, a lawyer and a friend (they first met in a Johannesburg vegetarian restaurant), comes to the railway station and gives him a book for the journey. It is Ruskin's *Unto this Last*. Gandhi, after he gets into the book, simply cannot put it down. The journey to Durban lasts 24 hours. At the end, Gandhi is a transformed man. The latent goodness in his heart has been brought out by Ruskin: only a poet, he says, could have done that.

He says he learnt three things from the book. First: the good of the individual is contained in the good of all. He says he knew that already, but really it was something he had learnt only from the general anti-Indian South African prejudice. The second is that the barber's work is as valuable as the lawyer's: he had begun, he says, in a vague way to know that. The third Ruskinian truth was something he had never known at all. It was that the life of labour, physical labour involving the use of the hands, whether by craftsman or tiller, was the life worth living.

He knows now what to do. He founds a commune, he translates Ruskin into Gujarati, he elaborates his idea of a movement called the Welfare of All. When he finally leaves South Africa and goes to India in 1915, these inward ideas — of perfectibility, bread labour, which contains the idea of internal caste reform — go with him. They balance and give a universality to the political fight. He finds an emblem of labour: the village spinning wheel. It is really the mahatma's tribute to the Victorian sage.

Let us stay just a while longer with Ruskin's followers in England: the Arts and Crafts movement, Ashbee, William Morris and the Kelmscott Press. The press, when it fell on hard times, passed to an Anglo-Ceylonese, Ananda Coomaraswamy, who had inherited a fortune from his father.

Coomaraswamy, who was born in 1877, applied Ruskinian ideas of the craftsman and medieval art to his study of the arts and crafts of India and Ceylon. He collected Indian paintings, mainly on paper. He established categories, he interpreted. There had been no one before him.

This kind of Indian painting was not a public art; it was hidden away in the libraries of princes. He was a prodigious man; his work still has to be taken into account.

In 1917, Coomaraswamy offered his great collection to the new university of Benares, in India. In return he wanted to be made professor of Indian art. They roughed him up and sent him away, so he took his collection to the museum in Boston, Massachusetts.

Coomaraswamy to Boston, Gandhi at almost the same time back to India — two men following different paths, it might seem. But 75 years on we can see them both as aspects of Indian renewal; and in the most unlikely way both careers contain a tribute to Ruskin. The irony is that Ruskin, after the Indian Mutiny, had no time for Indians.

This was just one chain of ideas and influence in our mingled civilisation. There must be hundreds, thousands, more. They will multiply as the English language spreads, and the various literatures of English grow. The connections will become more subtle; sometimes they will be hidden. It is with a consciousness of some of these connections that I welcome the luck of the prize.

TELEVISION REVIEW: Horizon

The empire strikes out

Ten years ago, President Reagan launched the Strategic Defence Initiative, or Star Wars, as it was immediately nicknamed. Among the enjoyable excesses of the 1980s, SDI holds a place of honour. Not only did it stimulate a debate about nuclear deterrence, with many of the severest critics of mutually assured destruction suddenly finding that they were rather attached to it after all, but it put the shivers up the Kremlin, infuriated CND, and provided a pork-barrel full of the choicest cuts for the scientific community.

Whether these incidental advantages were worth $30 billion is perhaps questionable. From the beginning it was clear to most, though not all, that SDI had little chance of working the way Reagan envisaged it. Albert Gore, then a senator from Tennessee, called it "a lunatic fantasy".

The president's idea was to create an impermeable shield above the United States, built from such exotic components as X-ray lasers, particle beam weapons and hypervelocity guns, able to shoot down the whole Soviet nuclear arsenal as it rose from the launchpad.

SDI was a wonderland of high technology, juicy research contracts and novel strategic concepts. It was also the excuse, as last night's Horizon (BBC 2) eloquently demonstrated, for some of the most fluent and shameless exaggeration ever carried out in the name of liberty, equality and the pursuit of happiness.

While the engineers struggled to get even a single one of the ideas working, the frontmen insisted that everything was going wonderfully. What the president had decreed, the scientific community would deliver.

> Of all the excesses of the 1980s, Star Wars must take the billion-dollar biscuit

Diplomatically, SDI was rather a success. It wrongfooted the Soviet Union and forced it into expensive competition. In 1985, at Reykjavik, only Reagan's attachment to Star Wars stood between the West and the acceptance of a long-standing Soviet goal, the non-nuclear world. There was nothing morally wrong about Star Wars, but technically it was a dud, an idea hothoused into existence before the time was ripe.

> In the end, all that was left was what had been there at the start

In last night's film, a series of scientists confessed all. Dr Jay Keyworth, the president's scientific adviser at the time, admitted that he had been stunned by the enormity of what Reagan was proposing, and realised that the limits of his influence would be to tone down the rhetoric. He tried, but without much success.

Another scientist who had taken the SDI shilling said of the concept: "I thought it was hogwash". Every time the scientists tried to moderate the promises, the Pentagon hyped them up again. SDI became a litmus test of loyalty. By the end, millions had disappeared down the yawning gap between rhetoric and reality without anybody noticing.

While the propaganda films showed a "rail gun" firing a projectile through 20 sheets of steel, the engineers behind the scenes were discovering fundamental problems which would prevent such weapons ever being effective. Few hints of the truth were allowed to escape. The X-ray laser — "a remarkable invention," Dr Edward Teller told Congress, regretting that national security forbade him to say more — was actually pretty much a flop.

In the end, all that was left was what had been there at the start: a ground-based missile defence system able, on a good day, to take out a small proportion of the enemy's missiles. That, it seems, will continue to be the case.

All in all, SDI was enough to give cynicism a good name. And yet I cannot help feeling sorry that it has gone. Like a lot of things that happened in the 1980s, Star Wars was huge fun for those who did not have to pay for it. It is improper, no doubt, to judge public policy by the amount of interesting copy it generates for journalists; but on that score Star Wars will be sadly missed.

NIGEL HAWKES

Posthumous win for victim of Aids

THE young French film director Cyril Collard, who died of Aids on March 5, at least bowed out in a blaze of glory. Three days after his death, his brazen debut feature *Les Nuits fauves* won the best film prize at the annual César Awards — the "French Oscars". Collard's semi-autobiographical film, shot in a frantic glossy style, concerns a bisexual cameraman (played by the director himself) who continues his busy sex life despite being diagnosed HIV positive. *Les Nuits fauves* also won awards for the best first film, best editing and the best performance by a newcomer (Romane Bohringer). It is being lined up for British distribution later this year.

ARTS BRIEFING

Miller springs eternal

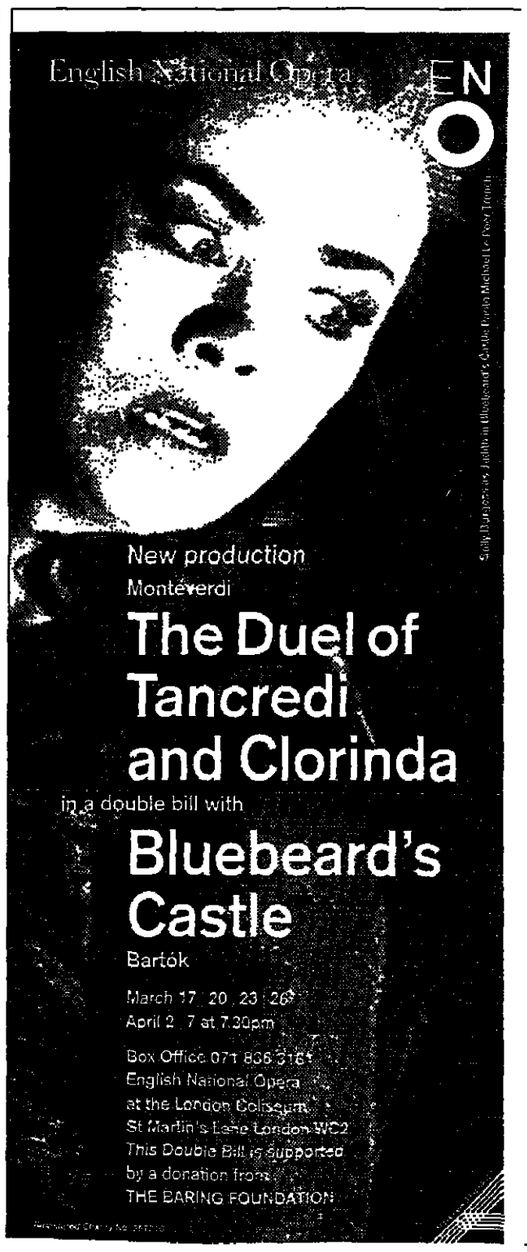
THE programme for this year's Buxton Festival has at last been announced, following the abrupt exit of the artistic director, Jane Glover, late last year. For the first time Buxton will not be promoting its own productions, but unfestively buying them in from elsewhere. There will be a preview of Opera North's autumn staging of Cimarosa's *Il matrimonio segreto*, an opera that Buxton has done before (1981), and one that audiences on both sides of the Pennines will be able to see anyway in regular seasons later in the year. It is to be directed by Jonathan Miller.

So is the second opera, Donizetti's *Maria Stuarda*, in the production to be unveiled in Monte Carlo later this month. No replacement for Glover as artistic director has been announced. And there is no festival "theme", one of the more agreeable features of past seasons — unless of course it is Dr Miller.

● CINEMA admissions in January were the highest for 14 years. At 10.6 million, they were 40 per cent up on the same month last year. Mild weather, the high profile of *The Bodyguard* thanks to Whitney Houston's chart-topping recording of songs from the film, and — in the last week of January — the release of Francis Ford Coppola's *Bram Stoker's Dracula*, are probable reasons for the high figure.

Last chance . . .

DEFIANTLY non-politically correct, the show that Wildenstein (New Bond Street, 071-629 0602, until Friday) has put on this year to mark St Valentine's Day celebrates "Le Charme Féminin" as it was understood in 18th-century France, with a collection of elegant, frivolous and sometimes mildly naughty oil paintings and watercolours. The serious point, if any, would seem to be that political and social influence exercised in the boudoir could be just as effective as power wielded in government. But there is no need for a serious point: the prettiness of the exhibits justifies a visit.



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TODAY'S EVENTS

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Karl Knight

LONDON

FESTIVAL OF BRITTEN Soprano Joan Rodgers and mezzo-soprano Jean Rigby feature in a programme by the Nash Ensemble comprising Britten's *Sword in the Stone* and *Phaedra*, Debussy's sonata for flute, viola and harp, Shostakovich's *Seven Poems of Alexander Blok* and Ravel's Piano Trio **Barbican**, Silk Street, EC2 (071-638 8891), 7.30pm

AMBACHE CHAMBER ORCHESTRA A programme entitled "Music by Mozart and the sister of Frederick the Great" offers a modern performance of Wilhelmine von Bayreuth's Piano Concerto in G minor contrasted with Mozart's Piano Concerto in G. Mozart's Symphony No 40 is performed in between **Queen Elizabeth Hall**, South Bank, SE1 (071-928 8800), 7.45pm

CHATSKY Anthony Burgess's translation of the celebrated social comedy by Griboyedov, dating from 1824, usually known as *Woe from Wit* receives a new staging. Colin Firth plays the sarcastic hero. Jonathan Kent directs. Opening night. **Almeida**, Almeida Street, N1 (071-359 4404) Opens tonight, 7pm, then Mon-Sat 8pm, mats Sat, 4pm.

ROYAL BALLET Last performance this season of Bintley's *Tombeaux*, an abstract work set to William Walton's *Variations on a Theme by Hindemith*, on a triple bill with the sensational Stravinsky-Fokine *Firebird* and Forsythe's *crashing and aggressive In the middle, somewhat elevated* **Royal Opera House**, Covent Garden, WC2 (071-240 1066) 7.30pm

THE MIKADO English National Opera revives another of its greatest hits, Jonathan Miller's slick and hugely *entertaining "grand-hotel" staging of the* Gilbert & Sullivan classic. The cast includes Richard Suart, Anne Collins, Janis Kelly, Barry Banks. Michael Rosewall conducts **Coliseum**, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (071-836 3161) 7.30pm

BOUDIN AT TROUVILLE: Though most often remembered as the man who first recognised the *talents of the* teenage Monet at Le Havre, Boudin was an artist of considerable quality in his own right. This show, previously seen at the Burrell Collection in Glasgow, confines itself to his long relationship with Trouville. The result is informative and enchanting. **Courtauld Institute Galleries**, Somerset House, WC2 (071-873 2538), Mon-Sat, 10am-6pm, Sun, 2-5pm, until May 2.

REGIONAL

HEMEL HEMPSTEAD: Award-winning Plain Clothes Productions continues a nationwide tour presenting Phil Smith's "brutal comedy" *Mrs Ceausescu's Organisation of Love*, set in Romania in the 1930s and 1989. **Old Town Hall**, High Street (0442 242827), tonight, tomorrow, 8pm

IPSWICH: The **Russian All Stars'** staging of the Tchaikovsky ballet *The Sleeping Beauty*, on ice, is intended to be popular entertainment. Although lacking in sensitivity — a lot of the small detail is missing from the choreography and the recorded account of the music is blasted across the stage — the skill and bravura of the performances keep the audience applauding. The production touring Britain until June **Regent**, 3 St Helen's Street, Ipswich (0473 281480) Tonight-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed. Sat, 2.30pm.

INVERNESS: *The* **English Shakespeare Company** continues the rounds with its stagings of *The Tempest*, with Irish actress and singer Olwen Fouere in the role of Ariel, and a revival of Bogdanov's favoured production of *Macbeth*

Eden Court Theatre, Bishop's Road (0463 221718). *Tempest*: Thurs-Sat, 7.30pm, mat Fri, 1.15pm: *Macbeth* tonight, tomorrow, 7.30pm, mat tomorrow, 1.15pm

KENDAL: **Scottish Opera** presents a small-scale touring production of Mozart's comic opera *Seraglio*, with a cast of nine professional singers and an actor, under the baton of the young British conductor Martyn Brabbins. **Westmorland Hall**, South Lakeland Leisure Centre (0539 729511), 7.30pm.

LIVERPOOL: **Welsh National Opera**'s spring tour takes the company to Liverpool this week with performances of the perennial favourite *La Bohème* (tonight, Fri); its gripping production of *Un ballo in maschera* (tomorrow); the new production of Donizetti's grand romantic opera *La Favorite* (Thurs), and Yannis Kokkos's musically superior new staging of *Tristan und Isolde*, a co-production with Scottish Opera (Sat). **Empire**, Lime Street (051-709 1555) Tonight-Fri, 7.15pm, Sat, 5pm.

OXFORD: The acclaimed National Theatre/Théâtre de Complicite co-production of Bruno Schulz's surreal and haunting **The Street of Crocodiles** goes on a nationwide tour **Playhouse Theatre**, 11-12 Beaumont Street (0865 798600) Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Thurs, Sat, 2.30pm

OXFORD: The development of Peter the Great's new Russian capital must be among the best recorded of all the world's major cities. **Panoramic Views of St Petersburg** brings together a *series of panoramic prints, mostly* officially commissioned, ranging in date from 1716 to 1835, which give a blow-by-blow account of the city's expansion. Particularly notable are the beautifully hand-coloured prints made by the Swede Benjamin Patersson, but there are many rare and beautiful items in the Ashmolean's collection, acquired mainly through the bequest of Gwenoch David Talbot. **Ashmolean Museum**, Beaumont Street (0865 278000). Tues-Sat, 10am-4pm, Sun, 2-4pm, until May 9.

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ House full, returns only
◪ Some seats available
□ Seats at all prices

■ **CAROUSEL**: Triumphant revival of the Rodgers & Hammerstein musical **National (Lyttelton)**, South Bank, SE1 (071-928 2252) Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed, Sat, 2.15pm 180mins

◪ **CRAZY FOR YOU** Thrillingly staged new version of the Gershwin musical *Girl Crazy*. Exceptional entertainment value **Prince Edward**, Old Compton Street, W1 (071-734 8951), Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, *mats Thurs Sat, 3pm, 150mins*

□ **CYRANO DE BERGERAC** Robert Lindsay looks right as the nasally challenged hero but the production is too bustling to give enough room to the full poignancy of his fate **Theatre Royal**, Haymarket, SW1 (071-930 8800) Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed and Sat, 2.30pm, 180mins.

◪ **THE DEEP BLUE SEA** Exceptionally strong production of the Rattigan drama by Karel Reisz, transfers after a sell-out run at the *Almeida. With Penelope Wilton and* Linus Roache **Apollo**, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 5070) Previews from tonight, 7.45pm, opens Mar 22, 7pm, then Mon-Fri, 7.45pm, Sat, 8pm, mats Wed, 3pm, Sat, 4pm 140mins

■ **FRANK PIG SAYS HELLO**: Quirky but intriguing two-hander peering into an Irish village troubled by dark deeds and a reckless piglet. **Theatre Upstairs**, Royal Court, Sloane Square, SW1 (071-730 2554) Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mat Sat, 3pm. 100mins.

■ **THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST** Maggie Smith commands the brittle world of lost handbags in this elegant revival. With Alex Jennings, Richard E. Grant, Margaret Tyzack. **Aldwych**, The Aldwych, WC2 (071-836 6404) *Mon-Sat 7.30pm mats Wed, Sat*, 2.30pm

□ **INVADE MY PRIVACY**: The tart and witty poems/songs of Fran Landesman brilliantly delivered around a dinner table by seven performers/musicians. **Riverside Studios**, Crisp Road, W6 *(081-748 3354) Mon-Fri, 7.45pm, Sat*, 6pm and 8pm 120mins

□ **THE INVISIBLE MAN** Not so cosy a venue as its birthplace in Stratford East but the show is as jolly as ever. Paul Kev's magic tricks are amazing **Vaudeville**, Strand, WC2 (071-836 9987) Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed, Sat, 3pm 150mins

□ **KING LEAR** Solid, respectable performance by Tom Wilkinson in a low-powered staging by *Max Stafford-Clark*. **Royal Court**, Sloane Square, SW1 (071-730 1745). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mat Sat, 2.30pm. 195mins. Final week.

◪ **KISS OF THE SPIDER WOMAN**: *Tremendously glossy production of the* Kander & Ebb musical. It coarsens the values of Manuel Puig's novel but Chita Rivera makes a striking vamp **Shaftesbury**, Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (071-379 5399) Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Wed, Sat, 3pm. 160mins.

■ **THE LAST YANKEE**: Subtle and touching *Arthur Miller premiere*: Zoe Wanamaker, Peter Davison lead a quartet of middle-aged Americans troubled by material success **Young Vic**, 66 The Cut, SE1 (071-928 6363). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Wed, Sat, 2.30pm, 75mins

□ **LOST IN YONKERS**: Terrific performance by Rosemary Harris in a Neil Simon comedy more weighty than usual. Maureen Lipman gives good value as a loopy aunt **Strand**, Aldwych, WC2 (071-930 8800). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed, Sat, 2.30pm 160mins.

□ **MISERY** Sharon Gless and Bill Paterson in nonsensical but chilling production of Stephen King's thriller **Criterion**, Piccadilly Circus, W1 (071-839 4488). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Wed, *3pm, Sat, 4pm 150mins*.

□ **NO MAN'S LAND** Paul Eddington and the author in tense, sharply comic Pinter. Riveting stuff **Comedy**, Panton Street, W1 (071-867 1045) Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 5pm 130mins.

◪ **ON THE PISTE** John Godber's slight but amusing look at partner *trouble in a downmarket ski resort* **Garrick**, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (071-494 5085) Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 4pm 135mins.

□ **PLAYLAND**. Athol Fugard's two-hander white man and black man, loitering outside a fairground, haul up their past and hint at the future. Builds to an eloquent climax. **Donmar Warehouse**, Earlham Street, WC2 (071-867 1150). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 4pm 90mins.

□ **TRAVELS WITH MY AUNT**: *William Gaunt, John Wells, Richard Kane*, Christopher Gee play all 26 parts in Giles Havergal's adaptation of Graham Greene's novel. **Whitehall**, Whitehall, SW1 (071-867 1119) Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.15pm, mats Wed, 3pm, Sat, 5pm, 140mins.

□ **TRELAWNY OF THE 'WELLS'**: Helen McCrory a fine heroine in goodish though sometimes slow staging by John Caird. **National (Olivier)**, South Bank, SE1 (071-928 2252). Tonight, tomorrow, 7.15pm, mat today, 3pm 190mins

LONG RUNNERS ◪ **Blood Brothers**: Phoenix (071-867 1044) □ **Buddy**: Victoria Palace (071-834 1317) . ◪ **Cats**: New London (071-405 0072) . . . □ **Don't Dress for Dinner**: Duchess (071-494 5070) ◪ *Five Guys Named Moe*: Lyric (071-494 5045) . . . □ **Hay Fever**: Albery (071-867 1115) . . □ **An Ideal Husband**: Globe (071-494 5065) □ **It Runs in the Family**: Playhouse (071-839 4401) . . ■ **Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat**: Palladium (071-494 5037) . . ◪ **Les Misérables**: Palace (071-434 0909) ◪ **Miss Saigon**: Theatre Royal, Drury Lane (071-494 5400) . . □ **The Mousetrap**: St Martin's (071-836 1443) . . ■ **The Phantom of the Opera**: Her Majesty's (071-494 5400) . . ◪ **Starlight Express**: Apollo Victoria (071-828 8665) . . □ **The Woman in Black**: Fortune (071-836 2238)

Ticket information from SWET.

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

NEW RELEASES

KNIFE IN THE WATER (PG). Gripping psychological games on a small sailing boat. Welcome revival of Polanski's first (and last) Polish feature, made in 1962. **Renoir** (071-837 8402).

ORLANDO (PG). Virginia Woolf's exuberant novel about a free spirit (Tilda Swinton) who lives for 400 years, changing sex en route, filmed with great aplomb by British director Sally Potter. **Gate** (071-727 4043) **Lumière** (071-836 0691) **MGM Chelsea** (071-352 5096) **Screen on the Hill** (071-435 3366)

◆ **SCENT OF A WOMAN** (15). A blind army veteran visits New York with a prep school pup. Far too long, with a barnstorming star (Al Pacino) and just a few spots of magic. With Chris O'Donnell; director, Martin Brest. **Camden Parkway** (071-267 7034) **Empire** (071-437 1234/497 9999) **MGM Baker Street** (071-935 9772) **MGM Fulham Road** (071-370 2636) **MGM Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332)

A SONG FOR BEKO Restrained but powerful elegy for the hounded Kurds and their dismembered homeland from émigré director Nizamettin Ariç. **ICA** (071-930 3647).

◆ **HONEYMOON IN VEGAS** (12): Private eye Nicolas Cage tries to save girlfriend from gambler James Caan's clutches. Andrew Bergman's agreeable, old-fashioned screwball comedy. **MGM Chelsea** (071-352 5096) **MGM Oxford Street** (071-636 0310) **Odeon West End** (0426-915 574) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332)

◆ **LEON THE PIG FARMER** (15): Jewish lad discovers his embarrassing pedigree. Exuberant British comedy that gets unduly silly. Stars Mark Frankel, Brian Glover; directors, Vadim Jean, Gary Sinyor. **Everyman** (071-435 1525) **MGM Tottenham Court Road** (071-636 6148) **MGM Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **Odeon Kensington** (0426 914666).

◆ **MALCOLM X** (15): Spike Lee's ambitious epic, glossily mounted and with a inspiring musical soundtrack. Denzel Washington is solid as the black activist, but prickly issues get sidestepped, and there is little cinematic fire. Provides ample fuel for discussion. **Barbican** (071-638 8891) **Camden Plaza** (071-485 2443) **MGM Fulham Road** (071-370 2636) **MGM Shaftesbury Avenue** (071-836 6279) **MGM Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **Screen on the Green** (071-226 3520) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332).

◆ **A RIVER RUNS THROUGH IT** (PG) Robert Redford's hymn to family, nature and fly fishing. Beautifully mounted, but lacking punch. With Craig Sheffer, Brad Pitt, Tom Skerritt. **MGM Fulham Road** (071-370 2636) **MGM Haymarket** (071-839 1527) **MGM Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332)

◆ **UNDER SIEGE** (15) US battleship gets hijacked, but Steven Seagal saves the day. Familiar antics, with juicy *villainy from Tommy Lee Jones and Gary* Busey. Director, Andrew Davis **MGM Fulham Road** (071-370 2636) **MGM Oxford Street** (071-630 0310) **MGM Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **Odeon Marble Arch** (0426-914 501) **Plaza** (071-437 1234/497 9999) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332).

SHADOWS AND FOG (15): Woody Allen's technically dazzling but indulgent homage to German Expressionist cinema. With Mia Farrow, John Malkovich, and, very briefly, Madonna. **Renoir** (071-837 8402)

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Let's all go down the Strand

Debra Craine has a preview of the Savoy Theatre's reopening as English National Ballet's showcase

English National Ballet had a problem: where to play its showcase London season this summer. The Coliseum, the usual venue for the company's June run, was otherwise engaged, tied up for a month with the visiting Kirov Ballet. ENB had no wish to repeat the box-office disaster of its 1989 Dominion season; the paucity of suitable London venues for dance left the company in a quandary.

The Savoy Theatre, too, had a problem: how to reopen its doors — three years after a fire destroyed its beautiful Art Deco interior — with the maximum fanfare and publicity for its £12 million refurbishment.

The answer to both problems turned out to be a partnership between the Savoy and ENB that will see the theatre reopen on July 19 with a royal gala ballet performance attended by the Princess of Wales, ENB's patron.

Workmen are still putting the finishing touches to the restoration that aims to recreate the theatre's Art Deco features. The velvet seating (for 1,130), the subtle lighting, carpets, fabric, the house curtain: all have been exactly reproduced to match the original designs of Basil Ionides, who transformed the Victorian auditorium into a masterpiece of Art Deco splendour in 1929.

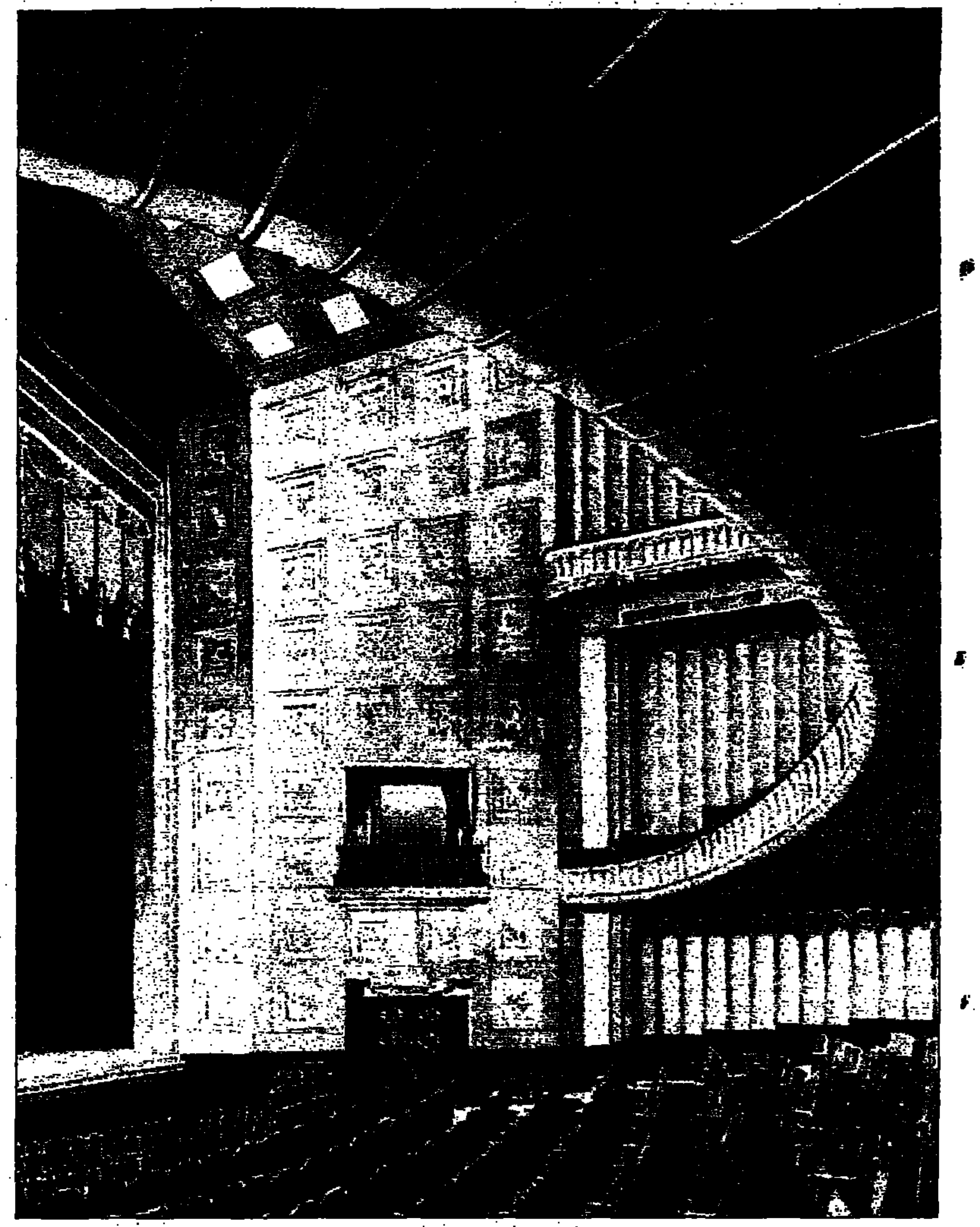
The Savoy Theatre, a Grade II listed interior, was originally built in 1881 by the impresario Richard D'Oyly Carte to house the comic operas of Gilbert and *Sullivan*. The theatre had the distinction of being the first public building in the world to be lit by electricity.

The enormous success of the Savoy *Opera* was short-lived, however; in 1890 the partnership of Gilbert, Sullivan and D'Oyly Carte was shattered. But the theatre continued to flourish. It became home to Noël Coward, Shakespeare and, more recently, Michael Frayn, whose *Noises Off* ran for a record 1,912 performances. Ballet, too, was not alien to the Savoy: in 1932 the Camargo Ballet staged a season there, so did the Ballet Jooss in 1933.

On February 12, 1990, the Savoy's interior was destroyed by a fire which swept through the theatre in the early hours. Because the safety curtain had been in place, the stage, dressing-rooms and backstage areas were largely untouched, but nothing remained of the auditorium.

The hardest part of the rebuilding has been the restoration of the panels which used to flank the proscenium arch, each of which had been hand-carved with a different design. Only a few of the 82 panels survived the blaze; matching the original patterns of the others involved some detective work and even more inspired guesswork.

The overall feel of the new auditorium is calming: the walls, lined with lacquered aluminium leaf, are a restful pink and silver; the ceiling is a delicate blend of blue and white.



A watercolour study, by Stephen Johnson, of the auditorium of the Savoy Theatre after restoration

But just above that will be 60 tons of splashing water — a swimming pool, the length of which corresponds exactly with the proscenium opening immediately beneath it. The pool, along with a sauna, gym and steam room, forms part of the Savoy Fitness Gallery, for use by guests in the adjacent hotel, also part of the Savoy Group. Theatregoers, however, will not hear the activity in the pool, thanks to the technique of setting the concrete floors in foam rubber.

The stage of the Savoy is small, just nine metres by nine metres — a distinct drawback for a company like English National Ballet. "It's not ideal for ballet and it never will be seen as a dance house," says Carole McPhee, the company's general administrator. "But it suits the purposes of this season and it's great for us to have somewhere to play in London."

ENB is reserving its big full-length works, such as *Swan Lake*, for its Festival Hall season (which begins on July 27). The Savoy season will feature small-scale works by 20th-century choreographers. These include the world premiere of *The Savoy Suite*, specially commissioned by ENB for the occasion. The piece will be choreographed by Wayne Sleep and will have a specially arranged score, featuring the music of Gilbert and Sullivan. "The theatre wanted a Gilbert and Sullivan theme and Wayne Sleep seemed to me to be whacky enough to come up with something different," adds McPhee.

Also on the bill is the British premiere of David Parsons's striking solo, *Caught*, probably danced by Parsons himself; and the London premiere of *The Seven Silences of Salome*, created by the Portuguese dancer Olga Roriz and featuring a cast of seven men. There will also be a revival of Glen Tetley's *Sphinx*.

Whatever the success of the ENB season, however, its partnership with the Savoy will be a one-off. When the dancers are gone, the actors will move in and the theatre will once again become a West End receiving house for drama.

● Booking for the English National Ballet Savoy season on 071-836 8888

CONCERT: Aldeburgh regular Rostropovich conducts at the Barbican's Festival of Britten

Heavyweight version emphasises the power

Peter Grimes
Barbican

THIS was the performance, if ever there was, to remind those of us who might have forgotten of just how powerful an opera *Peter Grimes is*, and of the extraordinary impact it must have made when it greeted the ripped world that day in 1945. The Barbican's Festival of Britten could not *extend to a full staging, but a concert* performance offers its own benefits. Details of orchestral writing normally seen through a sea-mist were made more vivid and colourful; and if the *splendid London Symphony Chorus* — all of them — gave the illusion of increasing the size of the Borough's community to that of a small town, in the bargain they unexpectedly emphasised *Grimes*'s links with the language of the Walton of *Belshazzar's Feast*. Only when they turned to face the back of the stage for the church service in Act II did *their numbers un*duly overwhelm.

Sheer size of forces apart, the power of this reading stemmed from the conductor Mstislav Rostropovich's deep and passionate understanding of the work. He stirred the tensions of the first act with an inexorable gathering of energies, and sensed acutely the dark complexities of the second act; he also realised perfectly the balance between the comically bustling sententiousness of the villagers and the terrifying herd instinct they later display.

The *singers* were excellent. Ben Heppner's Grimes had its strained moments, most obviously in the scene with the boy at his hut. Quiet, high singing he as yet seems to find difficult to sustain. But those other great, pathetic moments — "Now the Great Bear and Pleiades" and the final confused soliloquy — were delivered with an understanding that guaranteed our sympathy. Nancy Gustafson's Ellen Orford lacked a degree of the warmth so essential for the character, and she sometimes swallowed her words. Grimes's other ally, Balstrode, was assigned to the *marvellous voice of Bryn Terfel*, whose characterisation of this simple but kind and wise man was the outstanding performance of the evening. Of the rest, Anne Collins's Mrs Sedley *brought to mind the busybodying*, snobbish Mrs Snell in *The Archers*, while Jason Howard's apothecary Ned Keene showed vocal qualities and acting abilities not unrelated to Terfel's. Menai Davies's Auntie, Michael Druiett's Hobson, John Connell's Swallow, John Dobson's Boles, Ryland Davies's Rector, and Judith Howarth's and Claire Daniels's brace of tartish Nieces completed this strong, young cast.

STEPHEN PETTITT

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HAMLET. Why, look you there! look how it steals away!
My father, in his habit as he lived!
Look, where he goes, even now, out at the portal!

As we liked it: the tragedian William Macready as Hamlet, in 1845, greeted the sight of his dead father with awe and tenderness

We critics were variously excited, moved, stimulated, impressed and irritated by Adrian Noble's Royal Shakespeare Company production of *Hamlet*, which opened in London in December and moves to Stratford on Thursday. We were not, however, all that chilled or haunted. The shiny ghost that rose from Ophelia's herb-garden, and padded about looking like the White King in a plastic chess-set, was hardly calculated to ice up the spine. Nor did Kenneth Branagh's sweet prince react to him with that mixture of terror and metaphysical awe I suspect you and I would feel if the grave suddenly yawned up a midnight visitor. A squawk of surprise, a few steps backwards, and that, pretty much, was that.

But even this was more than we have come to expect these days. Last summer Robert Sturua reduced the ghost of Hamlet's father to an old tramp who bumbled across the stage as if in need of a handout from Alan Rickman's prince; and, just as significantly, few critics seemed surprised by the bathos. Who would guess that two, three, and probably four centuries ago this encounter could claim to be the most thrilling in all Shakespeare? Much has been lost in the last 200 years, including perhaps the meaning of *Hamlet* itself.

David Garrick's scene with the ghost was the most famous in his repertoire. Men reportedly cried out, women fainted at the astonishment and terror his Hamlet displayed when he met a figure almost entirely hidden behind armour made of spookily lit steel-blue satin. And then Garrick began gaspingly to speak, not at the beginning but at the end of a breath: "Angels and ministers of grace defend us!" For one writer, George Lichtenberg, the very words made the scene "one of the greatest and most terrible that will ever be played on any stage." Partridge, the bumpkin in Fielding's *Tom Jones*, "fell into so violent a trembling that his knees knocked together". He would, he said, rather follow the Devil than join Garrick on that stage.

But Garrick was only following the example of the first great post-Restoration actor, Thomas Betterton. He turned pale as his neckcloth, stood dumbfounded with horror, and, speaking in a solemn trembling voice, "made the ghost equally terrible to the spectator as to himself". And whose example was Betterton following? Well, he had been coached "in every particle" of the role by Sir William Davenant, licensee of the Lincoln's Inn Fields Theatre; Davenant had seen Joseph Taylor play Hamlet before the civil war; Taylor had taken over from Burbage as chief actor of Shakespeare's old company; and Shakespeare himself is said to have given "the top of his performance" as the ghost to Burbage's Hamlet.

There is no scene in Shakespeare with so compelling a tradition behind it. A scarey ghost and a quaking Hamlet could almost be said to have the imprimatur of the Bard himself. But can you recall either of them making your flesh creep of late? No; I thought not.

True, it is no easy task. Ghosts

> 'Shakespeare is said to have given the top of his performance as the ghost'

inhabit the frontiers of credibility, and theatrical history is full of droll botch-ups. The 18th-century ghost who toppled over and helplessly rolled in his armour onto the flaming footlights. The tipsy 19th-century ghost who launched into a long, muddled altercation with the pit. The American ghost who entered while a military band played "See, the conquering hero comes". The massive ghost with the "very unusual mincing manner and most delicate of affected voices", and the plump, overfed ghost whom Shaw accused of having come from toasting muffins on the flames of hell.

Only Courtenay Thorpe's ghost left Shaw believing he had heard what was wanted: "the spectral wail of a soul's bitter wrong crying from one world to another in the extremity of its torment." And in our time, when technology permits a million spooky effects, I can think of just one Hamlet Senior who has come close to upending the hair in the way his forebears evidently did with only trapdoors, candles and flimsy coverings to aid them. That was the ten-foot wraith that back in 1965 hovered over David Warner's Hamlet and spoke in Patrick Magee's best graveyard voice. But even he was there, less to chill and horrify, more to emphasise the feelings of inadequacy of the son he proceeded anti-climactically to embrace.

Myself, I've watched Hamlet Sr sit beside his son on a park bench as if cosily explaining the facts of life, and I've seen him emphasise his message by *lying flat upon him*; I've seen him lower his head to avoid hitting the "exit" sign as he entered the stalls, I've watched him stroll about shining an electric torch into his own face, I've been bumped by him as he scrambled through the audience pursued by RSC actors; I've several times heard him booming invisibly from the flies, the wings and, in one notorious case, from a more corporeal place still. Back in 1980, he took up residence in Jonathan Pryce's stomach, burping out his news like a dyspeptic dybbuk.

But if Hamlet needs a frightening ghost, the ghost needs a frightened Hamlet. That is one of the main lessons of the play's early history. It was the prince's fear as much as its object that gave the scene its frisson. Boswell asked Dr Johnson: "Would you start as Garrick does if you saw a ghost?" "I hope not," he replied, "for if I did I would frighten the ghost." And Booth, Hamlet's father to Betterton's Hamlet, made the same point: "instead of my awing him, he terrified me."

But a great change occurred about 1780. Garrick had followed the ghost with his sword nervously pointed at it; but his successor, Kemble, trailed the weapon behind him by way of showing his trust. Reverence, pity, filial devotion became and remained Hamlet's reactions to his dead father throughout the 19th and into the 20th centuries. Macready seems to have fallen to his knees, greeting the apparition with a mixture of awe and tenderness. Salvini an overwhelming joy, Irving a respectful melancholy, while for Sarah Bernhardt, the great woman Hamlet, the ghost was "as incidental as an omelette". Even that all-electric actor, Kean, behaved "as if accustomed to hold a colloquy with such sepulchral visitors".

Nor have the alarm-bells grown in volume in our own day. Gielgud opted for a heartrending pathos, Olivier for feverish exhilaration. Finney bowed respectfully, Jacobi tried to embrace his dead father, Roger Rees seemed politely surprised, Daniel Day-Lewis exuded a desperate love, and Jonathan Pryce, as well he might, looked badly in need of bicarbonate of soda.

But does this matter? Yes, very much; for a hideous ghost and an appalled prince help explain the play's central mystery. Why does Hamlet delay his revenge? For the very reason he himself gives. The ghost may be a devil in disguise, a "goblin damned" luring him to hell. That feeling disappears if the apparition becomes an offstage voice or ambles about in a white pullover, or a dirty overcoat, or a fascist uniform, like some recent spooks.

There is, however, a second, more slippery question. In the age of A.J. Ayer and the Bishop of Durham, can we give the scene the awful plausibility it needs? All the technological trickery in the world cannot replace belief in ghosts and demons or, for that matter, in the Devil and hell. And yet did Coleridge err when he said that "Hume himself could not but have faith in *this* ghost, let his anti-ghostism be as strong as Samson"? Was the great German critic, Lessing, wrong to claim that those who laugh at ghosts by day still shudder at ghost-stories by night? "Before the ghost in *Hamlet*," he added, "the hair stands on end, whether it covers a believing or a disbelieving head."

What Lessing wrote in the Age of Reason seems equally true two centuries later. Somewhere there must be a Hamlet and a ghost capable of sending us shuddering from the theatre. How long must we await their clammy touch?

● *Hamlet previews at the Royal Shakespeare Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon (0789 295623) on Thursday and Friday, opening on Saturday at 12.30 (also at 6.30pm). It plays thereafter, Mon-Sat until May 1.*

LONDON THEATRE: On the Fringe, a well played but negligible early piece by David Mamet and the story of a screen idol who fell from grace

Anything but a blockbuster

Squirrels
King's Head, Islington

This dramatic doodle was tossed off by David Mamet 20 years ago and appears to have lain more or less forgotten ever since.

Let me start again. Why did anybody bother to revive *Squirrels*, the dramatic doodle that David Mamet tossed off 20 years ago?

No, that's still not quite right. Is it fair to describe the play that David Mamet, the accomplished author of *American Buffalo* and *Glengarry Glen Ross*, tossed off 20 years ago as a dramatic doodle?

One more try. What did David Mamet, of whom we have come to expect so much, think he was doing when he tossed off this dramatic doodle 20 years ago?

Novelists are not the only people who have trouble with their first sentences. Critics sometimes have the same problem, especially when they are confronted with plays lacking in sense and substance. How much is there to be said of a 80-minute piece whose main character, an author called Arthur, spends most of his time onstage struggling with the opening of a book he has been trying to write for 15 years? "A man goes into the park with the intention of strangling a squirrel and does so." "The squirrel sat on the edge of a big, big root." "It was a brisk, bracing day in the park." So he continues, not until the very end of the evening managing to satisfy himself — and, I fear, almost as infrequently interesting us.

Edward Petherbridge, white grizzle stretching from his cap to his cardigan, brings a grouchy charisma to the part of the blocked author, Arthur. Steven O'Shea plays a secretary who begins by trying to get his employer's mental juices flowing, and gets progressively more fed up when his help is snubbed. And Sara Kestelman, a cleaning woman, intermittently interrupts their sessions, either to make erotic advances ("wanna make love?") or to read extracts from her own abortive creations.

These include science-fiction and Western, a romance heavily indebted to moonlight in the desert and a thriller about a spy escaping across the frozen Baring Straits to Mother Russia. Meanwhile, O'Shea quizzes Petherbridge about the symbolism of his tale ("what do squirrels *represent*?") and Petherbridge lets slips the odd apophthegm ("If you never hear another thing in your life, remember this: art is art") while stealing his amanuensis's sandwiches. I chuckled at the earnest pretension, as Mamet presumably wanted me to; but not much, not often.

The actors are expert, Aaron Mullen's production perfectly serviceable. The problem is the play. Towards the end, Mamet seems to suggest that writers can learn from their blockages; but it is hard to take him very seriously. How can we do so when before then he has had little that is not facetious to say about either the creative process or the forces stifling it?

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

DONALD COOPER



Author and secretary: Edward Petherbridge, Steven O'Shea

His face fitted, his preferences did not

The Tailor-Made Man
BAC, Battersea

He was one of the biggest stars in the late 1920s, but even the name of William Haines is scarcely known today. His films are still kept in studio vaults, denied even the occasional television outing, or any other sort. At the height of his Hollywood career he was decreed a non-person, and so he remained, for the movie moguls at least, for the remaining 40-odd years of his life.

Claudio Macor's play recounts the rise, fall and eventual equilibrium of the actor who took the title of one of his hits, *Tell It To The Marines*, rather too literally. When the vice squad surprised him in a YMCA room with a sailor, the public finally shared what had been common knowledge throughout the film colony. Billy Haines was — in the words of the (fortunately) inimitable studio boss L.B. Mayer — "a pansy".

The story is narrated in flashback by Billy's boyfriend, Jimmy Shields. A casual pick-up in New York in 1922 led to a 50-year relationship. Shields followed *Haines to California after* Billy's victory in a talent competition led to high pressure, manufactured stardom. Stand-in, scene painter and finally interior designer, Jimmy stayed with Haines despite the star's promiscuity, through success and failure. He killed himself in 1974, a year after Billy's death.

Macor's writing has uneasy moments. When Jimmy confesses, of their first meeting, that "I desperately wanted to be a lump of sugar melting in the bottom of a hot cup of coffee", there are echoes of the romantic comedies once graced by Evelyn Laye. When he complains in Hollywood, *"I feel like a convict* in a gilded prison," the clichés of a Joan Crawford vehicle, say, are not unsuitably evoked.

The play is at its best documenting the facts: the preposterous, publicity-engineered courtship between Haines and Pola Negri (here portrayed like the Gloria Swanson figure in *Sunset Boulevard*), the hideous beating the men were subjected to by the Ku Klux Klan, the all-pervasive studio dictatorships run by appalling philistines who managed to create the century's one popular art form (the jury is still out on pop music). Warmth and humour are provided by figures like Marion Davies and Carole Lombard, here convincingly seen as funny, salty-tongued, earthy and staunchly loyal in friendship. (They even offer a rude interpretation of what William Randolph Hearst, alias Citizen Kane, meant by Rosebud.)

Friendship as much as love, loyalty no less than Eros, are the play's true themes. Stars like Lombard and Crawford helped make Haines into a successful interior decorator after his disgrace. Ironically, his last important commission was in the bosom of the establishment: the American ambassador's residence in Regent's Park in 1969. He had refused Billy Wilder's invitation to appear with the old timers, including Buster Keaton, in *Sunset Boulevard*.

On Michael Fleischer's set with its walls of movable panels, Macor's direction of his play is aptly straightforward. Simon Tweed and John Gilmour convince in both frivolity and grief. Neil MacLeod suggests the monster that was L.B. Mayer; and Susan Shields as Lombard depicts the blonde ebullience that attracted Clark Gable and repelled Charles Laughton — now there's another play waiting to be written . . .

MARTIN HOYLE



Nonconformist: Simon Tweed as screen idol William Haines

OPERA IN SWEDEN: **Rodney Milnes** sees a British composer premiere his first full-length work a long way from home

Welcomes are warmer on the Arctic Circle



Peter Mattei as Voland: an unbuttoned performance

Fortunato
Norrlands Opera

The fact that an important new opera by a British composer — Ian McQueen's *Fortunato* — should have been given its premiere in Sweden is both something of a mystery and a not-so-silent reproach to the way that contemporary opera and its funding are approached here. Norrlands Opera, the northernmost repertory opera company in the world, is based in Umeå, a snowball's throw from the Arctic Circle. It is roughly the equivalent of Opera North, and its director, Per-Erik Öhrn, has access through his previous connection with the Vadstena Summer Academy to the cream of young Swedish singers, than whom there are few creamier.

He also has a nose for British production teams who are prepared to work seriously and hard (no Norrlands Opera production reaches its first night with less than six weeks' stage rehearsal, and *Fortunato* had eight); among those who work there are Clare Venables, David Parry and Matthew Richardson.

Öhrn also has an ear for British composers. The 38-year-old McQueen's one-act *Line of Terror*, a *Judith and Holofernes opera*, was premiered at Vadstena in 1987, and Öhrn promptly commissioned the full-length *Fortunato*. The ENO Opera Studio tried to perform *Line of Terror* in last year's Almeida season, but could not find the money. *Fortunato* was premiered in Umeå last week and will be given 21 performances, for which 80 per cent of the seats were sold before the first night. Oh dear . . .

I say "important" because McQueen's is an individual and compelling voice, eclectic in the very best sense. The influence of *Britten is plain to hear and so, in* some angular vocal intervals, is that of his teacher Maxwell Davies. From another mentor, Per Norgård, comes a vein of peculiarly Baltic lyricism, and there is a love duet without voices to which Bernstein would not have been ashamed to put his name. There is also a healthy eroticism in much of *Fortunato* that has been absent from British opera since Walton. Plainsong, jazz and 18th-century pastiche play their part. Above all, the musical thought-processes are always apparent: this is "useful" music in the sense that Britten wanted his to be.

Vanda Monaco-Westerståhl's libretto is based on various literary sources from the 17th century, and takes the form of a picaresque *Bildungsroman*. The eponymous hero leaves home, like Peer Gynt, and falls in with two low-life characters, the trickster Voland and his moll Mariella. Fortunato becomes in turn a beggar, a Swedish Count's hit-man, victim of the Potiphar's-wife-style Countess, and an actor. At each stage he and his companions fall foul of Thomas, the Count's puritanical counsellor — an archetypal Swedish character. When Voland is hanged, *Fortunato* has an Ibsenesque encounter with a Woman on a Mountain before rejecting her and continuing on his journey.

Fortunato is not perfect — what first full-length opera is? Some nips and tucks could with advantage be made in each of the three long acts, and the piece does not quite end. But of McQueen's skill in writing rewardingly for both voice and orchestra, and his overall command of operatic form, there can be no doubt.

The premiere production, devotedly conducted by Gary Berkson and directed with flair by Matthew Richardson, was notable for three stunning performances. The title role was written for the prodigiously gifted counter-tenor Mikael Bellini, as expressive an actor as he is a singer, and the mezzo Carina Strandberg had vocal and physical allure in plenty as Mariella. The baritone Peter Mattei partnered her in an extraordinarily unbuttoned performance as Voland. Seldom can so much intimacy have been portrayed on stage with such lack of inhibition or offence.

هكذا من الأجمل

Julin seeks change in starting process

FROM DAVID POWELL, ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT IN TORONTO

TWO years ago, in the fastest and most fiercely competitive 100 metres there has been, Linford Christie was squeezed out of the medals at the world championships in Tokyo because the starter did not apply a specific guideline in the international rulebook governing reaction time to the gun. Now, Colin Jackson, Christie's friend and British team-mate, has suffered at the hands of a starter shooting himself in the foot.

In the 60 metres hurdles final at the world indoor championships here on Sunday, Jackson took the silver medal. The gold went to Mark McKoy, the Canadian with whom he trains. But McKoy made a false start, as Dennis Mitchell had done in Tokyo.

Mitchell's "flyer" was sufficiently marked as to have made the difference between him finishing third and fourth. He completed a clean sweep of medals for the United States behind Carl Lewis and Leroy Burrell, leaving Christie fourth.

Mitchell's reaction time was 0.090sec, McKoy's 0.053sec. The rulebook indicates that a reaction time quicker than 0.100sec should not be permitted, the theory being that anything quicker is anticipation of the gun rather than reaction to it.

As McKoy had already made one false start, he should have been disqualified. Even McKoy, one of Toronto's own, admitted as much. "If it had not been Toronto, I would have been watching from the sidelines," he said.

Ron Bell, the Canadian starter, defended his decision to let the race run and, according to the rules, the starter "shall be the sole judge of any fact connected with the start". He said: "I have done about 25,000 starts in my career and McKoy is as good a starter as I have ever seen."

Bell is 58 which, in Sweden, would put him out of a job. "We have an upper age limit of 55 after which you are not allowed to start at top-level meetings because your sharpness diminishes," Lennart Julin, who trains Swedish starters, said.

On Julin's recommendation, the Swedish federation has written to the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) seeking a rule improvement to clear up an apparent contradiction. While 162 (10) permits a reaction time of 0.100sec or slower, rule 162 (6) suggests that a false start is determined by the report of the gun, not by reaction time, and that any start after the gun is legal.

In which case, McKoy did not false start, although the more specific nature of 162 (10) says that he did. "We want to make the two paragraphs correspond so that you do not accept, in any circumstances, a reaction time lower than 0.100sec," Julin said.

Julin believes that a great many races break the rules because athletes are supposed to be steady in the set position but, usually, are not. In the women's 100 metres final in Tokyo, Gwen Torrence twitched, disturbing Merlene Ottey in an adjacent lane. When the gun went, Ottey was rocking backwards, got a dreadful start and finished third.

"At the championships here, probably no more than five starts were correct," Julin said. "Under the present system, the athletes can make the start one continuous movement, but it should be divided into three parts. The essential thing is the steady 'set' part. By applying the longer set time, the movement cannot be continuous." In other words, athletes would not seek to cheat by starting before the gun sounds.

Starters are assisted by headphones that register an acoustic signal if a reaction time is faster than 0.100sec. Bell said that it had been set off by an athlete not still in the set position and therefore he could not use it to judge McKoy.



Cast of one: this solitary fly-fisherman is at peace with the world as he settles to his day's sport in the idyllic setting of a fast-flowing stream

Cold water start for the sport of high summer

Brian Clarke marks today's opening of the fly-fishing season with an optimistic preview of prospects for the months ahead

A friend of mine, a great humorist as well as a great angler, had braved the early March weather with a group of others. Like them he was cocooned and swaddled. An Arctic wind whipped tears from his eyes. Ice crinkled across the lake. The first flecks of snow were searing down the air. It was bone-achingly cold.

My friend stirred. He blew on his numb, red fingers, drew his fishing coat more tightly around him and pulled down his hat. Then he settled again, concentrating. "By crikey," he said in a soft, fervent voice. "I'll be glad when I've had enough of this."

That remark, though made when he was after pike, captures deliciously the ambivalence of fishing for trout so early in the year. All senses cry out that fly-fishing is a sport of high summer, when the air is hazed with blue and the trout dimple into the setting sun. And yet so often when March 16 is reached, fly-fishers are reaching for their woollies, and topping up on fortitude. After six months of peering down winter's tunnel, the first few days of the new season have promised too long and too much to be resisted.

Today, of course, after a week of sun, tens of thousands of trout fishermen are going to find more right than wrong, but few will find the fishing easy. The water will still be too cold to stimulate much fly-life and the fish themselves will not be ready to hunt. A few rods will bend, a few fish will jump, a few nets will bow and drip; but not so many.

Because of this, most anglers will wait until April, a few even until May, before starting. By then the water will be alive with food and the fish will be fat and in fettle. By May, the season will be seriously under way.

Bar late disasters, the outlook is excellent. If the fishing prospects in the short term are no better than par for the time of year, the omens for the longer term are better than for many seasons past. The rain that we have had since the autumn has done wondrous things.

The notion that rain is always good for fishing is an old wives' tale. The effect of rain on fishing depends entirely on the circumstances in which it falls — and the quantities. If it falls in the wrong amounts in the wrong places at the wrong times of year, the effects of rain on sport can vary from the negligible to the disastrous.

But over the last winter, nature has got everything right. Rain has fallen, in sensible amounts, on watersheds that were croaking dry, at the time of year when there was little in the way of plant life to soak it up and no heat to cause it to evaporate. The rivers that take their water in direct run-off from the land are already brimming; the rivers that rely on underground springs are already assured of enough stored-up supplies to see them well into summer.

It is these latter rivers — especially the most famous trout rivers of all, the southern chalk streams — that will see the most interesting changes. They will be spared the worst that any heat might do over the summer, and the dread levels of blanket weed that have all but killed sport in recent years are unlikely to recur.

Blanket weed thrives in silted waters that are rich in nutrients, when temperatures are high and the water is clear. It thrived during the drought years and in turn suffocated beneficial plants like ranunculus, which are home to insects on which trout wax fat.

The higher flows expected for the coming summer will increase depth and velocity, reduce light penetration, help carry away silt and dilute nutrients. Ranunculus, which was all but wiped out on some reaches in 1989, will make some kind of comeback; and with it, fly-life will improve.

Lake anglers will benefit, too. As water tables rise, so the levels of lakes and ponds rise with them. The result will be some deeper, cooler water in which the fish can seek comfort if the weather again turns hot. Where springs well up from a lake bed, the result will be lower temperatures still, increased oxygenation and more active fish. Fly-fishers who know where such spots are will make a killing.

Anglers who fish the big reservoirs like Rutland Water and Grafham will be blessed with a particular advantage. These lakes have been full, or close to full, for several months and the once dried-out and barren margins have now been flooded long enough for weed and fly-life to repopulate large tracts of them. The result, with hundreds of more acres of shallows to fish and enough food and cover to bring the trout close in, could be bank fishing of a quality perhaps not seen for a decade.

That said, there are few absolutes or certainties in angling. Those confined to the rain-fed rivers could still suffer if the summer rains fail, and anyone confined to a shallow lake could yet have a bad time if the sun burns as it did in 1989 and 1990. Those who fish chalk streams, though, have an excellent year in prospect. They are unlikely to feel they have had enough at any time, whatever the weather might bring.

Drought threat, page 7

FOR THE RECORD

BASKETBALL

CARLSBERG NATIONAL LEAGUE: Men: First division: Hemel Hempstead Royals 71, Stentofon Worthing Bears 133; Proton Manchester Giants 96 (Lloyd 26, Hutcheson 25), Guildford Kings 100 (Byrd 24, Henlan 22); Sunderland Saints 80, Cheshire Jets 85. Second division: John Carr Doncaster Panthers 108, Solent Stars 60. Women: First division: London Jets 57, Cheshire 51; Milton Keynes O Cats 49, Thames Valley 64; Rhondda 71, Nottingham Wildcats 58.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Detroit Pistons 101, Chicago Bulls 99; Los Angeles Clippers 124, Minnesota Timberwolves 107; New York Knicks 121, Indiana Pacers 90; Atlanta Hawks 117, Los Angeles Lakers 107, Seattle SuperSonics 105, Orlando Magic 97; Charlotte Hornets 96, Boston Celtics 93.

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York Knicks	42	18	.700	—
New Jersey Nets	36	25	.590	6½
Boston Celtics	33	28	.541	9½
Orlando Magic	29	30	.492	12½
Miami Heat	26	33	.441	15½
Philadelphia 76ers	20	39	.339	21½
Washington Bullets	16	43	.271	25½

Central division

Chicago Bulls	42	20	.677	—
Cleveland Cavaliers	40	21	.656	1½
Charlotte Hornets	33	28	.541	8½
Atlanta Hawks	31	31	.500	11
Indiana Pacers	29	32	.475	12½
Detroit Pistons	27	33	.450	14½
Milwaukee Bucks	24	37	.393	17½

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Midwest division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Houston Rockets	40	21	.656	—
San Antonio Spurs	38	21	.644	1
Utah Jazz	35	26	.574	5
Denver Nuggets	25	35	.417	14½
Minnesota T'wolves	14	45	.237	25
Dallas Mavericks	4	56	.067	35½

Pacific division

Phoenix Suns	48	14	.787	—
Seattle SuperSonics	42	20	.677	5
Portland Trail Blazers	35	23	.603	10
Los Angeles Lakers	32	28	.533	14
Los Angeles Clippers	31	31	.500	16
Golden State Warriors	25	36	.410	21½
Sacramento Kings	20	41	.328	26½

BOWLS

SWANSEA: British Isles men's championships: Semi-finals: Under-25 singles: G Harlow (Eng) bt D Harding (Wales), 21-18; J Strickland (Scot) bt N Booth (Ire), 21-12. Pairs: S Rees and J Price (Wales) bt D Gourley Jr and R McCulloch (Scot), 28-11; T and I Boyle (Eng) bt I Stewart and S Moran (Ire), 22-17.

PERTH: Women's British championship: Semi-finals: Pairs: England (E Vigor and T Barton) bt Ireland (B Dunlop and M Johnston), 28-13; Wales (A Mullins and R Jones) bt Scotland (A Robertson and S Smeal), 32-13. Triples: Ireland (M Scott, A Doggart and F Elliot) bt England (J Foster, G Cousins and B Brown), 17-16; Wales (P Griffiths, J Evans and V Howell) bt Scotland (J Gibson, S McCrone and J Foster), 22-21 (after extra end). Fours: Scotland (J Miller, S McLeish, A Melrose and J Conlan) bt Ireland (M Cameron, B Baillie, I Bell and M Johnston), 16-15; England (V Wade, K Coles, E Scarborough and D Searle) bt Wales (S King, M Hopkins, M Davies and D Rowlands), 19-18 (after extra end).

CRICKET

PERTH: Tour match (second day): England A 293 (G P Thorpe 97; C McDonald 6-36); Western Australia 190-7 (M Goodwin 59 not out).

SHEFFIELD SHIELD: Sydney: South Australia 317 and 163; New South Wales 393-8 dec and 88-1 (M Slater 48 not out). New South Wales won by 9 wkts. Hobart: Western Australia 321 and 299 (M Veletta 104, T Moody 71); Tasmania 370-7 dec and 190-6 (R Ponting 100 not out). Match drawn. Positions (after nine matches): 1, New South Wales, 28pts; 2, Queensland, 26; 3, Western Australia, 21; 4, Tasmania, 16; 5, Victoria, 10; 6, South Australia, 8.

CYCLING

TIRRENO-ADRIATICO RACE: Fifth stage (Italy unless stated): 1, E Leoni, 4hr 16min 22sec; 2, E Vanderaerden (Bel); 3, F Fontanelli; 4, S Martinello; 5, U Raab (Ger); 6, F Baldato, all same time. Overall: 1, M Fondriest, 25hr 31min 59sec; 2, J Skibby (Den), at 1sec; 3, A Tchmile (Moldova), 7; 4, S Della Santa, 8; 5, A Chiurato, 9; 6, D Rebellin, 10.

MURCIA, Spain: Tour of Murcia: Final standings: 1, C Galarreta (SP), 20hr 28min 16sec; 2, L Cubino (Sp), at 2sec; 3, E Bouwmens (Holl), 12; 4, Gorospe, 17; 5, E Chozas (Sp), 25; 6, J Urcaga (Sp), 45.

PARIS-NICE RACE: Final standings: 1, Zulle, 29hr 7min 45sec; 2, Bezault, at 41sec; 3, Lance, 1:07. Others: 39, R Millar (GB), 9:33; 43, S Kelly (Ire), 10:43; 61, S Yates (GB), 19:37.

FOOTBALL

NEVILLE OVENDEN COMBINATION: First division: Swindon 1, Fulham 0; Millwall 4, Bristol City 1

GOLF

BANGKOK: Men's tournament: Leading final scores: 279: C Mann (Aus), 72, 68, 69, 70; Hsieh Chin Sheng (Taiwan), 70, 68, 71, 71; S Flesch (US), 67, 71, 69, 71. Mann won play-off.

SHINTOMICHO, Japan: Women's tournament: Leading final scores (Japan unless stated): 211: K Hiyoshi, 71, 73, 67; M Hatton, 70, 68, 73. Hoyoshi won play-off.

TUCSON, Arizona: Women's tournament: Leading final scores (US unless stated): 272: M Mallon, 67, 66, 70, 69. 273: B King, 70, 67, 65, 71. 274: J Crafter (Aus), 69, 67, 68, 70. 275: C Rarick, 68, 70, 71, 66; J Inkster, 70, 67, 71, 67. 278: P Sinn, 69, 73, 71, 65; A Ritzman, 71, 72, 68, 67; N Lopez, 70, 66, 72, 70; H Stacy, 73, 68, 67, 72.

FORT LAUDERDALE, Florida: Honda Classic: Leading final scores (US unless stated): 207: F Couples, 64, 73, 70; R Gamez 68, 71, 68. Couples won play-off at second extra hole. 208: L Mize, 69, 67, 72. 209: D Mast, 68, 69, 72. 210: C Parry (Aus), 67, 71, 72. 211: E Dougherty, 70, 74, 67; F Zoeller, 66, 75, 70; M Smith, 69, 72, 70; R Mediate, 71, 69, 71; J McGovern, 71, 69, 71; S Pate, 68, 71, 72; D Frost (SA), 68, 69, 74. 212: D Hart, 68, 73, 71, J Inman, 70, 69, 73. 213: D Pooley, 72, 72, 69; C Pavin, 70, 73, 70; N Faldo (GB), 69, 72, 72; R Tway, 68, 72, 73; J Sindelar, 69, 70, 74.

GYMNASTICS

BLETCHLEY: British rhythmic championships: Seniors: 1, D Southwick (Merseyside), 35.275pts; 2, J Walker (Hillingdon), 34.95; 3, A McKenzie (Westminster), 34.40.

HOCKEY

PIZZA EXPRESS NATIONAL LEAGUE

Final tables

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Hounslow	17	16	0	1	58	14	48
Southgate	17	13	2	2	54	24	41
Old Loughts	17	11	2	4	42	22	37
Havant	17	11	2	4	43	23	35
Firebrands	17	9	5	3	33	27	32
Stourport	17	9	3	5	31	31	30
Teddington	17	7	4	6	33	24	25
St Albans	17	7	4	6	29	43	25
Slough	17	6	4	7	23	28	22
E Grinstead	17	6	3	8	28	31	21
Bournville	17	6	1	10	22	33	19
Cannock	17	6	1	10	25	39	19
Bromley	17	4	6	7	26	29	18
Trojans	17	4	6	7	25	29	18
Welton	17	4	5	8	19	33	17
Canterbury	17	4	3	10	26	39	15
Neston	17	1	2	14	15	45	5
Surbiton	17	0	3	14	26	56	3

Second division

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Reading	17	15	1	1	48	9	46
Indian Gym	17	13	3	1	43	11	42
Guildford	17	14	0	3	46	17	42
Barford T	17	10	3	4	27	20	33
Beeston	17	9	2	6	24	19	29
Brooklands	17	8	3	6	32	27	27
Isca	17	7	4	6	27	22	25
Doncaster	17	8	1	8	24	27	25
Cambridge	17	8	1	8	27	34	25
Harleston M	17	7	1	9	27	27	22
Richmond	17	6	2	9	29	28	20
Harborne	17	5	4	8	27	28	19
Cheltenham	17	5	2	10	15	26	17
Warrington	17	4	5	8	22	37	17
Chelmsford	17	4	2	11	19	33	14
Brean	17	4	1	12	10	38	13
O K'stonians	17	3	3	11	11	23	12
Lyons	17	2	4	11	20	44	10

ALDERSHOT: Services championships: Army 0, RAF 0. Final positions: 1, Army 4pts; 2, RAF 4; 3, Royal Navy 0. Women: Army 0, RAF 0 (RAF won 3-1 on pens. Final positions: 1, RAF 6pts; 2, Army 3; 3, Royal Navy 0.

ICE HOCKEY

HEINEKEN LEAGUE: Premier division: Cardiff 8, Durham 3; Norwich and Peterborough 11, Murrayfield 5; Nottingham 7, Humberside 4; Whitley 9, Billingham 9. First division: Lee Valley 10, Medway 6; Romford 3, Milton Keynes 3; Sheffield 6, Telford 2.

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Chicago Blackhawks 5, Edmonton Oilers 4; Detroit Red Wings 4, San Jose Sharks 1; Winnipeg Jets 3, Tampa Bay Lightning 1; Pittsburgh Penguins 3, New York Islanders 2; St Louis Blues 3, Minnesota North Stars 1; Calgary Flames 3, Vancouver Canucks 2.

WALES CONFERENCE

Patrick division

	W	L	D	Pts
Pittsburgh Penguins	42	21	6	90
Washington Capitals	33	27	7	73
New York Rangers	31	26	11	73
New Jersey Devils	33	29	6	72
New York Islanders	32	30	6	70
Philadelphia Flyers	25	32	11	61

Adams division

*Montreal Canadiens	42	23	6	90
* Quebec Nordiques	38	22	10	86
* Boston Bruins	37	24	7	81
Buffalo Sabres	33	26	9	75
Hartford Whalers	20	43	5	45
Ottawa Senators	9	57	4	22

CAMPBELL CONFERENCE

Norris division

	W	L	D	Pts
Chicago Blackhawks	38	22	10	86
Detroit Red Wings	37	26	9	83
Toronto Maple Leafs	36	24	9	81
Minnesota North Stars	33	29	9	75
St Louis Blues	33	30	8	74
Tampa Bay Lightning	21	43	5	47

Smythe division

* Vancouver Canucks	38	23	9	85
Calgary Flames	36	24	10	82
Winnipeg Jets	31	33	6	68
Los Angeles Kings	30	31	7	67
Edmonton Oilers	24	38	8	56
San Jose Sharks	10	59	2	22

* won play-off place

LACROSSE

KINGSTON, Surrey: International match: England 11, Scotland 4.

SNOOKER

BANGKOK: Asian Open: Third round: W Thorne (Eng) bt A Davies (Wales), 5-2; D O'Kane (NZ) bt A Hamilton (Eng), 5-4; K Doherty (Ire) bt R Garrett (Eng), 5-0; S Ali (Eng) bt P Francisco (SA), 5-3; J Parrott (Eng) bt S Storey (Eng), 5-4; D Harold (Eng) bt A Robidoux (Can), 5-3; M Johnston-Allen (Eng) bt B Gollan (Can), 5-4; D Roe (Eng) bt C MacGillivray (Scot), 5-1. Fourth round: J White (Eng) bt M Hallett (Eng), 5-3; J Swail (N Ire) bt R O'Sullivan (Eng), 5-2; N Fruin (Eng) bt J Read (Eng), 5-2.

RUGBY UNION

PERTH: Tour match: Western Australia 3, Western Province (SA) 40.

SKIING

ALTENMARKT, Austria: World freestyle championships: Men's Moguls: Final: 1, J-L Brassard (Can), 28.57pts; 2, F Bertrand (Fr), 25.27; 3, O Cotte (Fr), 25.21. Women's Moguls: Final: 1, S L Hattestad (Nor), 25.22pts; 2, P Moroder (It), 23.97; 3, B Thomas (Can), 23.88.

HAFJELL, Norway: World Cup: Women's downhill: 1, K Pace (Can), 1min 50.60sec; 2, P Street (US), 1:50.86; 3, C Montillet (Fr), 1:51.22. Overall downhill: 1, K Seizinger (Ger), 604pts; 2, R Haeusl (Ger), 323; 3, K Lee-Gartner (Can), 294; 4, A Haas (Austria), 291; 5, Pace, 285; 6, M Vogt (Ger), 283. Women's giant slalom: 1, C Meier (Ger), 2min 22.08sec; 2, M Ertl (Ger), 2:22.10; 3, Seizinger, 2:22.75.

SIERRA NEVADA, Spain: Men's World Cup downhill race: 1, A Assinger (Austria), 1min 55.64sec; 2, D Mahrer (Switz), 1:55.65; 3, H Trinkl (Austria), 1:55.71. British positions: 29, M Bell, 1:57.84; 49, G Bell, 1:59.75; 52, R Walker, 1:59.98.

TENNIS

FLORIDA: International tournament: Men's singles: Second round: G Raoux (Fr) bt A Mancini (Arg), 6-3, 6-4; P McEnroe (US) bt G Ivanisevic (Cro), 6-3, 6-3; B Becker (Ger) wo G Pozzi (It); A Agassi (US) bt A Krickstein (US), 7-5, 6-0; G Forget (Fr) bt T Witsken (US), 6-3, 7-5; A Boetsch (Fr) bt V Spadea (US), 6-4, 6-7, 6-1; J Tarango (US) bt A Cherkasov (Rus), 6-2, 6-2. Women's singles: Second round: G Fernandez (US) bt A Gavaldon (Mex), 6-2, 7-5; D Van Rensburg (SA) bt W Probst (Ger), 7-6, 1-6, 6-4; R Zrubakova (Cz) bt N Ercegovic (Cro), 6-1, 6-4; A Sánchez Vicario (Sp) bt R Fairbank-Nideffer (US), 6-3, 6-1; J Capriati (US) bt I Gorrochategui (Arg), 6-1, 6-1; F Labat (Arg) bt C Singer (Ger), 7-6, 4-6, 6-2; J Wiesner (Austria) bt L Davenport (US), 6-4, 6-2; M Oremans (Holl) bt S Hack (Ger), 6-3, 3-6, 6-4; L Meskhi (Rus) bt J Steven (US), 6-4, 6-3; P Fendick (US) bt S Testud (Fr), 6-2, 6-2; G Sabatini (Arg) bt J Emmons (US), 6-2, 6-3; A Coetzer (SA) bt G Pizzichini (It), 6-4, 6-2; S Rottier (Holl) bt J Halard (Fr), 6-4, 6-4; N Zvereva (Belarus) bt K Rinaldi (US), 7-6, 7-6; S Farina (It) bt N Sawamatsu (Japan), 1-6, 7-5, 6-1; J Durie (GB) bt S Cecchini (It), 6-3, 6-7, 6-1; D Graham (US) bt P Shriver (US), 5-7, 7-6, 6-4.

YACHTING

BRITISH STEEL CHALLENGE: Leading positions (at 09:00 GMT yesterday, with miles to Cape Town): 1, Group 4 Securitas (M Golding), 541; 2, Hofbrau Lager (P Goss); 644; 3, Nuclear Electric (J Chittenden), 662; 4, Commercial Union (R Merriweather), 761; 5, British Steel II (R Tudor), 768; 6, Rhone-Poulenc (P Phillips), 775; 7, Coopers & Lybrand (V Cherry), 796; 8, Heath Insured (A Donovan), 810; 9, Interspray (P Jeffes), 969; 10, Pride of Teesside (I MacGillivray) 1,080.

☐ Compiled by BT.

POOLS FORECAST

THE Premier League looks the best bet for treble chance selections this week with the matches at Anfield, Bramall Lane and Selhurst Park all likely to produce jackpot draws. Liverpool usually have the better of their Merseyside derbies against Everton, but Everton will have taken heart from their victory at Goodison Park in December and are playing well enough to deny Liverpool revenge.

Sheffield United and Crystal Palace need all the points they can muster to avoid relegation, but it is difficult to see anything other than stalemate on Saturday.

Although Norwich City are right back in the championship race, it will be surprising if they improve on an away draw against Wimbledon, who delight in upsetting supposedly superior teams. This season, Wimbledon have done the double over Liverpool and Arsenal, beaten Manchester United at Old Trafford and knocked Aston Villa out of the FA Cup.

Brentford are sliding quickly down the first division, but should at least break their losing sequence by holding Saturday's visitors, Birmingham City, who are in worse trouble in 23rd place.

The third-division fixture between two mid-table sides, Carlisle United and Colchester United, looks a banker draw.

Saturday, March 20 unless stated
1 Arsenal v South'pton
1 A Villa v Sheff Wed
1 Ipswich v Coventry
X Liverpool v Everton
2 Man City v Man Utd
1 Oldham v QPR
X Sheff Utd v C Palace
X Wimbledon v Norwich
Not on coupons: Blackburn v Middlesbrough; Chelsea v Tottenham; Nottingham Forest v Leeds (Sunday)

FIRST DIVISION
X Brentford v Birmingham
2 Bristol C v Watford
1 Leicester v Grimsby
1 Luton v Bristol R
1 Newcastle v Notts Co
X Peterborough v Oxford
1 Portsmouth v Charlton
1 West Ham v Tranmere
1 Wolves v Cambridge
Not on coupons: Barnsley v Sunderland (Sunday); Derby v Swindon (Sunday); Southend v Millwall (Sunday)

SECOND DIVISION
1 Bolton v Exeter
1 Bradford v Wigan
1 Brighton v Bournm'th
X Hudd'field v Blackpool
1 Hull v Mansfield
1 Leyton O v Port Vale
2 Plymouth v Swansea
2 Preston v Stockport
X Reading v Burnley
1 Stoke v Fulham
Not on coupons: Chester v Rotherham (Friday); Hartlepool v West Brom

THIRD DIVISION
1 Cardiff v Chest'field
X Carlisle v Colchester
2 Darlington v North'pton
2 Hereford v Gillingham
1 Lincoln v Scarboro
1 Rochdale v Torquay
2 Scunthorpe v Wrexham
1 Walsall v Barnet
1 York v Bury
Not on coupons: Halifax v Shrewsbury

DIADORA LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION
2 Kingstonian v Marlow
1 Sutton v Dulwich
2 Wivenhoe v Stevenage
X Yeading v St Albans

SCOTTISH PREMIER
1 Celtic v Rangers
2 Dundee v Aberdeen
X Falkirk v Airdrie
1 Hearts v Hibernian
1 Motherwell v Partick
X St Johnstone v Dundee U

SCOTTISH FIRST
1 Dumbarton v Clydebank
1 Hamilton v Stirling
1 Kilmarnock v Ayr
2 M'dowb'k v Cowdenb'th
X Raith v Dunf'mline
1 St Mirren v Morton

SCOTTISH SECOND
1 Alloa v Berwick
2 E Stirling v East Fife
2 Montrose v Forfar
1 Q of Sth v Arbroath
1 Queen's Pk v Albion
X Stenh'muir v Brechin
Not on coupons: Stranraer v Clyde

TREBLE CHANCE (home teams): Liverpool, Sheffield United, Wimbledon, Brentford, Peterborough, Huddersfield, Reading, Carlisle, Yeading, Falkirk, St Johnstone, Stenhousemuir.

BEST DRAWS: Liverpool, Sheffield United, Wimbledon, Brentford, Carlisle.

AWAYS: Manchester United, Stockport, Northampton, Gillingham, Stevenage.

HOMES: Ipswich, Leicester, Luton, Newcastle, Wolves, Bradford, Brighton, Stoke, York, Sutton, Hearts, Dumbarton.

FIXED ODDS: Homes: Ipswich, Newcastle, Stoke, York, Dumbarton. Aways: Manchester United, Gillingham, Stevenage. Draws: Sheff Utd, Wimbledon, Carlisle.

☐ Vince Wright

TODAY'S [illegible]

FOOTBALL

7.30 unless stated

FA Cup
Sixth round replay
Sheffield Utd v Blackburn (7.45)

Barclays League
First division
Barnsley v Notts County (7.45)
Birmingham v Sunderland (8.0)
Cambridge United v Peterborough (7.45)
Grimsby v Tranmere (7.45)

Second division
Burnley v Bournemouth

Third division
Bury v Rochdale

Autoglass Trophy
Area final, first leg
Port Vale v Exeter (7.45)
Wigan v Stockport (all ticket)

GM Vauxhall Conference
Macclesfield v Dagenham and Redbridge
Merthyr v Stalybridge
Telford v Northwich
Witton v Stafford
Yeovil v Wycombe (7.45)

Tennents Scottish Cup
Fifth round replay
Clydebank v Aberdeen

Scottish League
Premier division
Celtic v Hibernian
St Johnstone v Falkirk

Second division
Arbroath v East Stirling

DIADORA LEAGUE: Premier division: Aylesbury v Kingstonian; Harrow v Enfield, Wivenhoe v St Albans.

ALLBRIGHT BITTER WELSH CUP: Semi-final, first leg: Cardiff v Wrexham.

HFS LOANS LEAGUE: Premier division: Goole v Horwich. First division: Congleton v Knowsley. Presidents Cup: Semi-final: Morecambe v Southport. League Cup: Matlock v Warrington; Gretna v Marine.

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier division: Cheltenham v Dover; Gloucester v Moor Green; Waterlooville v Solihull (7.45).

KONICA LEAGUE OF WALES: Caersws v Newtown; Connah's Quay v Bangor; Conwy v Flint Town; Holywell v Llanidloes.

PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Manchester City v Liverpool (6.45); Wolverhampton v Rotherham (7.0). Second division (7.0). Coventry v York; Everton v Hull.

NEVILLE OVENDEN COMBINATION: First division: Arsenal v Tottenham (2.30); Luton v Ipswich (2.0); QPR v Oxford United (2.0); West Ham v Portsmouth (2.0). Second division: Bournemouth v Exeter.

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: Armthorpe Welfare v Pickering; Belper v Eccleshill; Stocksbridge PS v Brigg.

ISTHMIAN LEAGUE ASSOCIATE MEMBERS CUP: Third round: Kingsbury v Barton; Newbury v Metropolitan Police; Thame v Worthing. Full Members Cup: Second round: Sutton United v Tooting and Mitcham; Windsor and Eton v Molesey.

BASS IRISH CUP: Quarter-final replay: Larne v Cliftonville.

RUGBY UNION

All 7.0

Club matches
Abertillery v Pontypridd
Cardiff v Bristol
Glamorgan W v Newbridge
Penarth v Aberavon
Swansea v Cross Keys
South Wales Police v Berry Hill
Tredegar v Pontypool

RUGBY LEAGUE

STONES BITTER CHAMPIONSHIP: Third division: Highfield v Keighley (7.30).

OTHER SPORT

BOWLS: British Isles men's indoor championships (Swansea); British Isles women's indoor championships (Perth).

BOXING: Middleweight bout: Chris Pyatt (Leicester) v Paul Wesley (Birmingham) (Grosvenor House Hotel, London).

[illegible] RESULTS

Catterick Bridge

Going: good to firm

2.10 (2m hdle) 1, Gaveko (M Dwyer, 5-2 jt-fav); 2, Otter Bush (20-1); 3, High Mind (5-2 jt-fav). 9 ran. Nk, 4l. Jimmy Fitzgerald. Tote: £2.60; £1.40, £1.20, £1.40. DF: £35.70. CSF: £40.74. After a stewards' enquiry, result stood.

2.40 (3m 1f 110yd ch) 1, Sandstone Arch (Pat Caldwell, 14-1); 2, Beyond Reason (1-2 fav); 3, Shermago (8-1). 4 ran. 1½l, dist. T Caldwell. Tote: £12.00. DF: £6.20. CSF: £20.87.

3.10 (2m hdle) 1, Delpiombo (M Dwyer, 4-1); 2, Kirstenbosch (100-30 fav); 3, Quietly Impressive (5-1). 13 ran. Hd, 10l. Jimmy Fitzgerald. Tote: £4.00; £2.30, £1.10, £3.20. DF: £5.30. CSF: £16.98. Tricast: £63.27. No bid.

3.40 (3m 1f 110yd ch) 1, Decent Man (C Hawkins, 7-4 jt-fav). Master Comet 7-4 jt-fav. 3 ran. Only one finished. P Beaumont. Tote: £2.50. DF: £1.10. CSF: £2.47. DF (winner with any other): £1.10.

4.10 (2m 3f ch) 1, Vulrory's Clown (M Brennan, 11-8 jt-fav); 2, Ringmore (11-8 jt-fav); 3, Dark Emperor (25-1). 6 ran. 12l, 3½l. O Brennan. Tote: £2.60; £1.20, £1.50. DF: £2.20. CSF: £3.32.

4.40 (3m 1f 110yd hdle) 1, Balloo House (A Carroll, Evens jt-fav); 2, King Of Steel (Evens jt-fav); 3, Another Earl (25-1). 4 ran. 7l, 4l. Mrs P Sly. Tote: £1.70. DF: £1.40. CSF: £2.14.

Placepot: £1,913.70.

Plumpton

Going: firm

2.00 (2m 1f hdle) 1, Baby Wizzard (A Maguire, 9-2); 2, Just (12-1); 3, Roger's Pal (6-1). Five-Jumelle 8-11 fav. 7 ran. 8l, sh hd. R Rowe. Tote: £5.90; £2.40, £4.70. DF: £48.80. CSF: £46.38.

2.30 (2m 5f ch) 1, River Fly (N Williamson, 25-1); 2, Sharpridge (3-1); 3, Millie Belle (11-4). Gentleman Angler 7-4 fav. 8 ran. 7l, 10l. J White. Tote: £22.30; £3.40, £1.10, £2.00. DF: £34.90. CSF: £88.83.

3.00 (2m 1f hdle) 1, Blushing Belle (A Maguire, 8-13 fav); 2, Chinaman (40-1); 3, Please Please Me (4-1). 8 ran. 2l, 12l. J White. Tote: £1.70; £1.10, £1.60, £1.30. DF: £15.40. CSF: £20.62. No bid.

3.30 (3m 1f 110yd ch) 1, Tryumphant Lad (Mr S Deasley, 8-13 fav); 2, Chelsea Man (2-1); 3, Grouse Moor (20-1). 4 ran. NR Nomelap. 20l, 15l. M Deasley. Tote: £1.60. DF: £1.50. CSF: £2.22.

4.00 (2m 4f) 1, Quai D'Orsay (L Dace, 11-2); 2, Major Enquiry (7-2); 3, Jinga (1-2 fav). 5 ran. NR: Manhattan Boy. 2l, ¾l. F O'Mahony. Tote: £7.70, £1.60, £1.40. DF: £7.00. CSF: £22.50.

4.30 (2m 5f ch) 1, Run To Form (B de Haan, 10-11 fav); 2, Gabish (Evens); 3, The Fruit (11-1). 3 ran. 7l, 15l. Mrs J Pitman. Tote: £1.90. DF: £1.30. CSF: £2.13

Placepot: £137.70.

Taunton

Going: firm

2.20 (2m 1f hdle) 1, Land Of The Free (P Scudamore, 5-6 fav); 2, Brimpton Bertie (33-1); 3, Euridice (15-2). 7 ran. 6l, 12l. M Pipe. Tote: £1.70; £1.40, £7.40. DF: £37.20. CSF: £20.53.

2.50 (2m 110yd ch) 1, Aldington Bell (D Bridgwater, 11-10 fav); 2, Wickfield Lad (25-1); 3, Recidivist (11-2). 6 ran. Hd, 10l. C Trietline. Tote: £1.80; £1.10, £5.90. DF: £20.40. CSF: £18.97.

3.20 (2m 1f hdle) 1, River Orchid (M A Fitzgerald, 11-2); 2, Handy Lass (9-4 fav); 3, Gray Illusions (33-1). 12 ran. NR: Clear Comedy. Nk, 15l. P Nicholls. Tote: £4.70; £2.20, £1.50, £3.20. DF: £5.30. CSF: £16.42.

3.50 (3m ch) 1, Poacher's Delight (D Richmond, 11-4; Richard Evans' nap); 2, Lucky May (20-1); 3, Sam Pepper (16-1). Crystal Heights 7-4 fav. 9 ran. NR: Dunkery Beacon. 15l, dist. M Pipe. Tote: £3.60; £1.60, £1.70, £2.40. DF: £29.60. CSF: £44.34.

4.20 (2m 1f hdle) 1, Lavalight (I Lawrence, 25-1); 2, Key Dear (11-2); 3, Run Fast For Gold (4-6 fav). 6 ran. 1½l, 5l. R Hodges. Tote: £23.70; £4.30, £2.50. DF: £21.60. CSF: £129.35.

4.50 (3m ch) 1, Knockumshin (Mr T Byrne, 5-4 fav); 2, Curaheen Boy (11-4); 3, Bentres (11-1). 10 ran. 5l, 2½l. Sidney J Smith. Tote: £2.30; £1.10, £1.50, £2.10. DF: £3.00. CSF: £4.65.

5.20 (2m 3f 110yd hdle) 1, Highland Spirit (P Scudamore, 13-8); 2, Desert Palm (10-1); 3, Snooker Table (20-1). Sand-Dollar Evens fav. 7 ran. NR: The Blue Boy, Caromandoo. 1½l, 5l. M Pipe. Tote: £2.80; £1.50, £2.20. DF: £9.90. CSF: £15.56. Tricast: £198.14.

Placepot: £175.40.

[illegible]

Answers from page 44

BELCHER

(a) A neckerchief with blue ground, and large white spots having a dark blue spot or eye in the centre, named after a celebrated pugilist called Jim Belcher; sometimes applied to any particoloured handkerchief worn around the neck: Lytton, *Lucretia*, 1846: "The lower part of which [a face] was enveloped in an immense belcher."

BALBRIGGAN

(a) The name of a town in Ireland, applied attributively to a knitted cotton fabric manufactured there, used in hose, underwear, etc., also to other products and elliptically: "Hosiery is well described as having slipped away from Ireland — save perhaps in the solitary instance of the Balbriggan hose, which is still in great demand."

MERRIMAC

(c) The Confederate "Merrimac", an ironclad wooden man-of-war, fought it out with the purpose-built, all-iron Federal "Monitor" in Chesapeake Bay in 1862. It was a no-score draw.

DOCTOR SLAMMER

(a) The irascible Doctor Slammer of the 42nd Foot appears in the early pages of *Pickwick Papers*. He picked a quarrel with a *gentleman* wearing the coat of the Pickwick Club and issued a challenge to its owner, Mr Winkle, who had no recollection of the previous night. But on discovering that it was the rascally Jingle who had actually worn the coat on the night of the quarrel, Slammer refused to proceed. It was beneath his dignity to fight a strolling player.

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

Following 1 Nd5! black is unable to cope with the devil of 2 Qxa5 without running into the deep blue sea of 2 Nc7 mate.

Vintage Crop can solve title puzzle

By Richard Evans, Racing Correspondent

RACING certainty is a contradiction in terms, which helps explain why the outcome of the ancient and continuing war between bookmakers and punters has a distinctly lopsided look in favour of the checked-suited gentlemen with satchels.

Even allowing for one of the sport's painful truths, rarely has there been so much uncertainty surrounding a big race as exists today for the Smurfit Champion Hurdle.

The confusion enveloping the feature event on the opening day of the Cheltenham festival stems partly from the absence of a budding Monksfield, Sea Pigeon or See You Then, along with the enforced absence of would-be champions like Carobee.

More significantly, virtually all the 18 runners have had an interrupted preparation or blotted their copybook on the racecourse in recent weeks. Add to that the unseasonal fast ground, and it will be no surprise to see the favourite sent off the longest price since Another Flash finished runner-up to Magic Court in 1964 at 6-1.

In such circumstances, a strict reading of the form book can only add to the confusion. Instead, why not indulge in a spot of lateral thinking. Is there a runner with the potential to show vastly improved form and sweep to victory?

I believe **VINTAGE CROP**, trained by Dermot Weld, fits the bill. If, and admittedly it is a big if, last season's runaway Cesarewitch winner can convert his Flat form to hurdling he has the ability to spread-eagle the field.

The doubters will point to the wretched record of Cesarewitch winners in the Champion Hurdle. Since the war six have failed to complete the double.

Vintage Crop, who won the Cesarewitch off a handicap mark more than 20lb higher than that of the recently retired Nomadic Way, is however in a different league. The big doubt surrounds his hurdling ability. Last season, he won two minor races and Weld admits his six-year-old is a manufactured rather than natural jumper of hurdles.

However, after Royal Gait's victory last year, in only his fourth run over hurdles, Vintage Crop can continue the trend of Flat class compensating for jumping inexperience.

For those not prepared to take the risk with Vintage Crop's inexperience, Granville Again would head my list of alternatives. Peter Scudamore opted yesterday to ride the full brother to Morley Street in preference to Valfinet and the champion jockey is confident of a big run.

The seven-year-old encounters his favoured fast ground for the first time this season and Martin Pipe believes he has dealt with the niggling problems which have afflicted Granville Again this campaign.

Flown, so impressive when beating **Halkopous** ten lengths in last year's Supreme Novices' Hurdle, must go close if reproducing that run. **Coulton**, who has such a high cruising speed, looks sure to be in a challenging position turning from home, but he could be outfought in a tight finish.

Cheltenham's unique characteristics have previously brought out the best in **Oh So Risky**, **Ruling** and **Duke Of Monmouth** and if there is a shock result, it could come from one of this trio.

Double-handed Tompkins hits positive note

By Richard Evans

Bluntness is, more often than not, truth stripped of a comfortable disguise. It is also traditionally the trademark and preserve of Yorkshiremen — such as Mark Tompkins.

"Racing is still living like it was 100 years ago in many of its ways and methods." Perhaps.

"Jockeys think they're Gods. They're not." Maybe.

In full flow, Tompkins then turned his plain-speaking attention to the chances of Halkopous and Staunch Friend, his two runners in this afternoon's Champion Hurdle. "I thought if the ground was good I would be first and second." Now, hang on a minute.

But, then again, could he just be right? In a season when dazzling performances by Champion Hurdle pretenders have been few and far between, there are two abiding memories which stand out.



Tompkins: relaxing with champion hope Halkopous

The first, on a sunny Saturday afternoon at Newbury last November, saw Staunch Friend cruising alongside the ill-fated Mighty Mogul two flights from home in the Gerry Feilden Hurdle. The then four-year-old, giving weight away to the older David Nicholson-trained rival, looked sure to win as he pleased, only to be outpaced on the run-in. "In retrospect, I think we should have gone on two out, but I had told Peter Scudamore not to hit the front until after the last. We didn't jump the last very well and then blew up on the run-in," Tompkins recalled.

The second memory, two weeks later, saw Halkopous trounce the likes of Granville Again, Morley Street, Oh So Risky and Kribensis in the Bula Hurdle.

Tompkins continued: "If I had not subsequently run my two abroad they would be first and second favourites."

While Staunch Friend floundered in Rome on ground which Tompkins had been promised would be good to soft but turned out to be unsuitably hard, the failure of Halkopous in the Irish Champion Hurdle was more mysterious. The start of a slight cold was the official diagnosis; fears of Halkopous being "got at" by dopers remains a possibility in the trainer's mind.

Tompkins's attitude to the disappointment is characteristically simple. "You have to forget about it. As a trainer I can forget the race — which I do often — that is not the horse I know. Everybody else reads so many different things into it all".

Of greater concern is the effect of May weather arriving two months early. As he cast his eyes skyward in search of a cloud, he added: "It wants to pour with rain, doesn't it. I have got Staunch Friend spot on but fast ground certainly won't suit him. I would want at least good jumping ground for Halkopous, nothing firmer."

In 1980, when he bought Flint Cottage Stables in Newmarket and began work with four moderate horses. Thoughts of a National Hunt runner were light years away, let alone the possibility of stepping forward at Cheltenham as the trainer of a Champion Hurdle winner.

"I don't even think about it. People take every sport too seriously. We have got into a very serious vein of life. We tend to be relaxed here. Although I shout and bawl a lot, people know what I am like and that I don't mean it. Some people treat this game like life and death."

Instead, Tompkins concentrates on putting his marketing talents to best use. Unusually in racing, he is an ideas man, always prepared to try something new which perhaps explains why he has not been hit so seriously by the recession and boasts a dual-purpose yard with 90 horses.

He dreamt up the successful idea of training horses for provincial newspapers with 250 readers enjoying the thrill of ownership. A dozen horses ended up in the yard as a result.

Now he is hoping to tempt other large groups of people into racing like London Computer Cabs, whose drivers will see a two-year-old, Cab Charge Princess, run in their colours this summer.

"It has taken a long time for people to realise we train horses. We are still not a fashionable yard but people are taking notice of our horses." This afternoon, for once, he hopes his horses do the talking.

TODAY'S RACES ON TELEVISION

CHELTENHAM

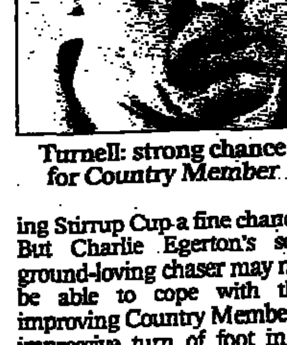
BBC1

2.15: Boro Eight may not be so effective on this ground and with Montelado not having raced this year, the strong Irish challenge in a tricky opener may be thwarted. Nigel Tinkler has chosen this race from three festival entries for the unbeaten Satin Lover but **Frickley** looks to have an excellent each-way chance. Gordon Richards's improving hurdler jumps particularly well and, using Dreamers Delight as a yardstick, he can prevail against Satin Lover.

2.50: **Sybillin** is unbeaten in five races including a highly-impressive performance when accounting for experienced handicappers in the Victor Chandler Chase at Ascot and Jimmy Fitzgerald's smart recruit will be many punters' banker of the meeting. If there is an upset in a race where favourites have a poor record, Travado offers the best each-way value.

3.30: SEE ABOVE

4.05: A less competitive Ritz Club Chase than normal and the two to concentrate on are **Country Member** and Stirrup Cup. A strict line through Kentish Piper gives the galloping Stirrup Cup a fine chance. But Charlie Egerton's soft ground-loving chaser may not be able to cope with the improving Country Member's impressive turn of foot in a race for which he has been laid out by the shrewd Andy Turnell.



Turnell: strong chance for Country Member

RICHARD EVANS

☐ Richard Evans landed a 7½-1 double yesterday with his nap Poacher's Delight (11-4) and Knockumshin (5-4).

Turner post

The Jockey Club has appointed Dr Michael Turner as its chief medical advisor, to take effect from March 16.

Festival pilgrimage, page 3
Piggott support, page 28
Results, see facing page

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CHELTENHAM

THUNDERER	RICHARD EVANS
2.15 FRICKLEY (nap).	2.15 Frickley.
2.50 Sybillin.	2.50 Sybillin.
3.30 Flown.	3.30 Vintage Crop (next best).
4.05 Country Member.	4.05 COUNTRY MEMBER (nap).
4.40 Esha Ness.	4.40 Roc De Prince.
5.15 Pactolus.	5.15 Top Javalin.

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 2.50 SYBILLIN.

GOING: GOOD, GOOD TO FIRM IN PLACES (CHASE COURSE); GOOD TO FIRM, GOOD IN PLACES (HURDLES) SIS

2.15 TRAFALGAR HOUSE SUPREME NOVICES HURDLE (Grade I: £30,014: 2m 110yd) (15 runners) BBC1

101	2F250-F	AIYBAK 24 (V,BF) (M Smith) D Weld (Ire) 5-11-8	B Sheridan	78
102	/3/64/1	ALMANZORA 10 (D,G) (Mrs E Hitchins) Mrs J Pitman 9-11-8	M Pitman	53
103	10-0F11	BORO EIGHT 30 (D,S) (J H'n) P Mullins (Ire) 7-11-8	A Maguire	95
104	132P3	CORRIN HILL 24 (B,S) (J Matthews) P Kelleway 6-11-8	P Niven	85
105	224-154	CYPRUS 18 (D,G) (T Ford) Miss J Doyle 5-11-8	S Curran	55
106	111222	DREAMERS DELIGHT 48 (B,D,G,S) (Mrs H Clarke) D Nicholson 7-11-8	R Dunwoody	78
107	112111	FRICKLEY 46 (D,G,S) (R Ogden) G Richards 7-11-8	N Doughty	82
108	1-61352	GAELIC MYTH 30 (D,S) (The Byrcor Syndicate) T Stack (Ire) 5-11-8	D Murphy	[illegible]
109	14P22	LEOTARD 34 (D,G) (C Heath) O Sherwood 6-11-8	J Osborne	79
110	1112-12	MONTELADO 79 (BF,G,S) (F Hannon) P Flynn (Ire) 6-11-8	C Swan	89
111	111111	SATIN LOVER 26 (CD,G,S) (D Hall) N Tinkler 5-11-8	G McCourt	80
112	0P	TONY'S DELIGHT 18 (Mrs S Lousada) G Balding 5-11-8	G Bradley	—
113	215341	WINDS OF WAR 30 (D,S) (Mrs M Valentine) M Morris (Ire) 8-11-8	L Cusack	72
114	U08540	MAESTROSO 19 (B) (Mrs T Dunbar) R Johnson Houghton 4-11-0	S McNeill	61
115	11	LEMON'S MILL 12 (D,G) (S Mercer) M Pipe 4-10-9	P Scudamore	72

BETTING: 7-2 Boro Eight, 4-1 Satin Lover, 9-2 Montelado, 7-1 Frickley, Gaelic Myth, 8-1 Lemon's Mill, 14-1 Dreamers Delight, 16-1 Leotard, 20-1 Aiybak, 25-1 Corrin Hill, 33-1 others.

1992: FLOWN 5-11-8 J Osborne (13-2) N Henderson 17 ran

FORM FOCUS

ALMANZORA beat Faithful Star 2½l in 9-runner Stratford (2m 110yd, good) novice hurdle. BORO EIGHT completed double, beat Time For A Run 13l in 9-runner Leopardstown (2m 2f, yielding) novice hurdle. Earlier beat All The Aces 15l in 20-runner Gowran Park (2m, heavy) maiden hurdle with WINDS OF WAR 2l 4th. CORRIN HILL 17l 3rd of 5 to Coulton in Nottingham (2m, good) limited handicap hurdle. DREAMERS DELIGHT neck 2nd of 7 to Sun Surfer in grade I Bading Securities Tolworth Hurdle at Sandown (2m 110yd, soft) on penultimate start with LEOTARD behind when pulled up before last. FRICKLEY beat DREAMERS DELIGHT 4l in 5-runner grade II Doncaster (2m 110yd, good) novice hurdle. GAELIC MYTH 6¾l 5th of 11 to Royal Derbi in grade I AIG Europe Champion Hurdle at Leopardstown (2m, yielding to soft) on penultimate start. LEOTARD neck 2nd of 9 to Bold Boss (received 10lb) in Ascot (2m 110yd, good to soft) novice hurdle. MONTELADO 1l 2nd of 6 to multiple winner Bayrouge, pair distance clear, in Leopardstown (2m, yielding to soft) novice hurdle. SATIN LOVER completed six-timer, beat El Volador 5l in 7-runner Sandown (2m 110yd, good) novice hurdle. Earlier beat DREAMERS DELIGHT (3lb worse off) 1½l in 9-runner novice hurdle over course and distance (soft). LEMON'S MILL completed double, beat Highbrook 2l in 7-runner Warwick (2m, good) novice hurdle.
Selection: BORO EIGHT

2.50 WATERFORD CASTLE ARKLE CHALLENGE TROPHY CHASE (Grade I: £40,680: 2m) (8 runners) BBC1

201	322212	ATLAAL 17 (D,BF,F,G,S) (D Donnelly) J Jenkins 8-11-8	G Bradley	52
202	3-11111	SYBILLIN 24 (D,F,G,S) (Marquesa de Moratalla) Jimmy Fitzgerald 7-11-8	M Dwyer	[illegible]
203	4-21422	THE SLATER 19 (D,F,G,S) (Kavanagh Roofing Southern Ltd) W G M Turner 8-11-8	P Holley	50
204	20-1811	TRAVADO 52 (D,G,S) (Mrs M Embiricos) N Henderson 7-11-8	J Osborne	71
205	RU6-21P	VALIANT BOY 17 (D,F,S) (R Chadwick) S Kettlewell 7-11-8	R Garritty	50
206	1-11122	WONDER MAN 24 (D,F,G,S) (Mrs S Robins) D Nicholson 8-11-8	R Dunwoody	94
207	D12481	GALEVILLA EXPRESS 17 (D,G,S) (Mrs S Doyle) V Bowens (Ire) 6-11-3	C Bowens	59
208	1131F2	WINNIE THE WITCH 17 (D,F,G,S) (Paddocks Racing) K Bridgwater 9-11-3	D Bridgwater	50

BETTING: 4-6 Sybillin, 3-1 Wonder Man, 5-1 Travado, 16-1 Galevilla Express, 25-1 Atlaal, 33-1 Winnie The Witch, 66-1 The Slater, Valiant Boy.

1992: YOUNG POKEY 7-11-8 J Osborne (4-1) O Sherwood 11 ran

FORM FOCUS

ATLAAL 5l 2nd of 4 to Soldon Lane in grade II Kempton (2m 4f 110yd, good) novice chase with VALIANT BOY (3lb better off) broke blood vessel and pulled up 7th. Previously beat WONDER MAN (8lb better off) ¾l in 4-runner Ascot (2m, good to soft) novice chase. SYBILLIN beat WONDER MAN (3lb worse off) 1¼l in 5-runner Nottingham (2m, good) novice chase. Previously beat Deep Sensation 10l in 11-runner grade II Ascot (2m, soft) handicap chase. THE SLATER 8l 2nd of 9 to Viking Flagship in Wincanton (2m, good) novice chase. TRAVADO beat ATLAAL — beaten when fell at last and remounted — distance in 7-runner Kempton (2m, soft) novice chase. VALIANT BOY beat Kibreet 6l in 3-runner grade II Ascot (2m, heavy) novice chase. WONDER MAN beat ATLAAL (7lb worse off) 3½l in 8-runner Kempton (2m, good to soft) novice chase in December with THE SLATER (7lb worse off) 4½l 4th. GALEVILLA EXPRESS beat Classical Charm 20l in 3-runner listed Naas (2m, soft) chase. WINNIE THE WITCH beat Duo Drom 3½l in 8-runner Nottingham (2m, good to soft) novice chase in December.
Selection: SYBILLIN

3.30 SMURFIT CHAMPION HURDLE CHALLENGE TROPHY (Grade I: £84,734: 2m 110yd) (18 runners) BBC1

301	530/660	ATHY SPIRIT 17 (D,F,G,S) (W Fenolin) W Fenolin (Ire) 8-12-0	X O'Brien	—
302	111-421	COULTON 24 (D,F,G,S) (M St Quinton) M W Easterby 6-12-0	M Dwyer	91
303	15-3842	DUKE OF MONMOUTH 24 (B,CD,G,S) (A Saeed) S Sherwood 5-12-0	G McCourt	81
304	12-2252	EYELID 17 (D,BF,F,G,S) (Mrs S Purcell) M Purcell (Ire) 7-12-0	C Swan	93
305	45-5321	FLOWN 22 (B,CD,F,G) (E Winfield) N Henderson 6-12-0	R Dunwoody	98
306	1F1-223	GRANVILLE AGAIN 78 (C,D,BF,F,G,S) (E Scarth) M Pipe 7-12-0	P Scudamore	96
307	122-110	HALKOPOUS 44 (C,D,BF,F,G,S) (A Christodoulou) M Tompkins 7-12-0	A Maguire	[illegible]
308	111311	JINXY JACK 39 (D,F,G,S) (Mrs B McKinney) G Richards 8-12-0	N Doughty	89
309	116-441	KING CREDO 31 (D,G,S) (G Gonzalez) S Woodman 8-12-0	H Davies	89
310	/20-582	KRIBENSIS 19 (CD,F,G,S) (Sheikh Mohammed) M Stoute 9-12-0	D Murphy	89
311	61-1235	MORLEY STREET 38 (CD,F,G,S) (M Jackson Bloodstock Ltd) G Balding 9-12-0	G Bradley	92
312	232-345	OH SO RISKY 78 (CD,F,G,S) (The Oh So Risky Syndicate) D Elsworth 6-12-0	P Holley	90
313	323104	ROYAL DERBI 10 (CD,F,G,S) (M Tabor) N Callaghan 8-12-0	M Perrett	87
314	23-4301	RULING 16 (B,D,G,S) (I MacDonald and J Short) R Johnson Houghton 7-12-0	P Niven	90
315	1-11210	STAUNCH FRIEND 52 (CD,G,S) (B Schmidt-Bodner) M Tompkins 5-12-0	J Osborne	94
316	111121	VALFINET 19 (CD,G,S) (P Farrant) M Pipe 6-12-0	J Lower	94
317	11-	VINTAGE CROP 150F (D,S) (M Smurfit) D Weld (Ire) 6-12-0	B Sheridan	70
318	13-2612	FLAKEY DOVE 10 (D,BF,F,G,S) (J Price) R Price 7-11-9	C Llewellyn	82

BETTING: 5-1 Flown, 6-1 Coulton, Granville Again, 8-1 Vintage Crop, 10-1 Halkopous, Oh So Risky, 14-1 Kribensis, 16-1 Ruling, Valfinet, 20-1 Morley Street, 25-1 Jinxy Jack, King Credo, Staunch Friend, 33-1 Duke Of Monmouth, 50-1 Eyelid, 66-1 Flakey Dove, Royal Derbi, 200-1 Athy Spirit.

1992: ROYAL GAIT 9-12-0 G McCourt (6-1) J Fanshawe 16 ran

FORM FOCUS

COULTON beat DUKE OF MONMOUTH (6lb worse off) 2l in 5-runner Nottingham (2m, good) limited handicap hurdle. DUKE OF MONMOUTH beat Crowded House 6l in 30-runner grade I Triumph Hurdle at this meeting (2m, good) last year. EYELID 2l 2nd of 13 to Assuring in Naas (2m, soft) handicap hurdle with ATHY SPIRIT (7lb better off) upwards of 9l 10th. FLOWN 5l 2nd of 8 to Mighty Mogul in grade I Christmas Hurdle at Kempton (2m, good to soft) on penultimate start with GRANVILLE AGAIN (same terms) 3l 3rd, KING CREDO (same terms) 10l 4th, OH SO RISKY (same terms) 5l 5th and KRIBENSIS (same terms) 8l 6th. HALKOPOUS beat GRANVILLE AGAIN (6lb better off) 10l in grade II hurdle here (2m 1f, soft) on penultimate start with MORLEY STREET (6lb better off) 6l 3rd, OH SO RISKY (6lb better off) neck 4th and KRIBENSIS (2lb worse off) 10l 5th. JINXY JACK beat COULTON (3lb better off) ¾l in grade II Haydock (2m, heavy) hurdle on penultimate start with ROYAL DERBI (3lb better off) 15l 3rd and RULING (4lb worse off) 10l 4th. KING CREDO beat Native Mission 5l in grade III Newbury (2m 110yd, good) handicap hurdle with FLAKEY DOVE (5lb better off) 7¾l 5th. ROYAL DERBI 13th and RULING 19th. ROYAL DERBI beat Novello Allegro 2¼l in 11-runner grade I Leopardstown (2m, yielding to soft) hurdle with HALKOPOUS (same terms) 11½l 9th in January. RULING beat Rodeo Star 10l in 4-runner Haydock (2m, good to soft) hurdle. STAUNCH FRIEND 4l 2nd of 6 to Mighty Mogul in grade II Newbury (2m 110yd, soft) hurdle in November with FLOWN (same terms) 18½l 5th and DUKE OF MONMOUTH (same terms) 15l 6th. VALFINET beat KRIBENSIS (same terms) 5l in 6-runner grade II Wincanton (2m, good) hurdle. VINTAGE CROP completed double last season with neck defeat of Prince Yaza in 7-runner Leopardstown (2m 2f, yielding to soft) novice hurdle with EYELID (6lb better off) 7l 3rd. Very useful stayer on the Flat. FLAKEY DOVE 6l 2nd of 5 to Lift And Load in grade II Newbury (2m 5l, firm) hurdle with ROYAL DERBI (3lb better off) 14l 4th.
Selection: FLOWN

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Rnrs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
M Pipe	7	87	8.0	J Osborne	6	30	20.0
N Henderson	6	36	16.7	R Dunwoody	6	53	11.3
G Balding	5	27	18.5	P Scudamore	5	53	9.4
D Nicholson	4	39	10.3	Mr M Armytage	2	8	25.0
D Elsworth	4	44	9.1	M Perrett	2	15	13.3
J Gifford	4	54	7.4	A Maguire	2	16	12.5

GUIDE TO OUR IN-LINE RACECARD

1 113143 GOOD TIMES 13 (BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 12-0 .... B West (7) 88

Racecard number. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing. F if flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

4.05 RITZ CLUB NATIONAL HUNT HANDICAP CHASE (£28,383: 3m 1f) (7 runners) BBC1

401	42/3-51	CAVVIES CLOWN 19 (D,G,S) (Mrs J Offiwant) Mrs J Pitman 13-11-10	G Bradley	90
402	2-11101	COUNTRY MEMBER 38 (D,G,S) (Mrs C Williams) A Turnell 8-11-5	L Harvey	95
403	1-35134	CACHE FLEUR 18 (B,D,BF,F,G,S) (B Kilpatrick) M Pipe 7-10-8	P Scudamore	98
404	53-12P1	GIVUS A BUCK 11 (B,F,G,S) (K Costello) D Elsworth 10-10-8 (3ex)	P Holley	92
405	111111	STIRRUP CUP 31 (D,G,S) (Elite Racing Club) C Egerton 9-10-5	J Osborne	[illegible]
406	FF-4123	SHOON WIND 38 (BF,F,G,S) (Mrs M Scholey) M Hammond 10-10-4	P Niven	94
407	UOU4U1	BORACEVA 12 (C,F,G,S) (Duke of Atholl) G Balding 10-10-2 (3ex)	A Maguire	94

BETTING: 5-4 Country Member, 9-2 Stirrup Cup, 6-1 Givus A Buck, 8-1 Cavvies Clown, 10-1 Boraceva, Cache Fleur, 14-1 Shoon Wind.

1992: TIPPING TIM 7-10-0 C Llewellyn (20-1) N Twiston-Davies 17 ran

FORM FOCUS

CAVVIES CLOWN beat Garrison Savannah 2l in 4-runner Wincanton (3m 1f 110yd, good) chase. COUNTRY MEMBER beat Rushing Wild 6l in 3-runner Sandown (3m 110yd, good) handicap chase. CACHE FLEUR 4l 3rd of 7 to Very Very Ordinary in Ascot (3m 110yd, good to soft) handicap chase on penultimate start. GIVUS A BUCK beat Knight Oil 2½l in 3-runner Newbury (3m, firm) handicap chase. Earlier 4l 2nd of 10 to Duntree in handicap chase here (3m 1f 110yd, soft) with BORACEVA unseated rider 14th. STIRRUP CUP completed six-timer, beat Kentish Piper short-head in 6-runner Uttoxeter (2m 7f, good to soft) handicap chase. SHOON WIND 5l 2nd when unseated rider last in 6-runner Chepstow (3m 5l 110yd, soft) handicap chase won by Fiddlers Pike, being remounted to finish 3rd. Earlier beat Galadine 30l in 5-runner Newcastle (3m, good) handicap chase. BORACEVA beat Do Be Brief 7l in 6-runner Warwick (3m 5l, good) handicap chase.
Selection: COUNTRY MEMBER (nap)

4.40 FULKE WALWYN KIM MUIR CHALLENGE CUP HANDICAP CHASE (Amateurs: £17,103: 3m 1f) (12 runners)

501	F53384	THE COMMITTEE 30 (S) (Corcrate Enterprises Ltd) J Scott (Ire) 10-11-10	P Graffin	91
502	01-00F0	ROC DE PRINCE 23 (D,G,S) (Mrs D Thompson) M Pipe 10-11-9	A J Martin	—
503	111F25	MERRY MASTER 24 (F,G,S) (G Lansbury) R Armytage 9-11-2	M Armytage	97
504	P-13525	ESHA NESS 45 (D,G,S) (P Bancroft) Mrs J Pitman 10-11-0	P Fenton	[illegible]
505	442222	KNIGHT OIL 11 (B,BF,F,G,S) (R A Bott Ltd) O Sherwood 10-10-13	J Durkan (3)	92
506	261222	ALLEZMOSS 30 (S) (M Cahill) E Bolger (Ire) 7-10-12	J Berry	90
507	1/11-13	MERANO 63 (BF,G,S) (Victor Chandler Ltd) M W Easterby 10-10-11	S Swiers	91
508	F/430/P	VULGAN WARRIOR 14 (F,G) (Mrs M Wilson) S Christian 11-10-6	M Rimell (7)	—
509	125131	CYTHERE 24 (D,S) (K Carr) J Gifford 9-10-0	T McCarthy (7)	92
510	122323	STRONG BEAU 33 (BF,G,S) (Mrs J Mould) D Nicholson 8-10-0	T Jenks (7)	91
511	162-415	RE-RELEASE 29 (B,G,S) (J Evans) M Pipe 8-10-0	G Lewis (7)	86
512	06-P1P3	LARKSMORE 28 (F,S) (Miss D Baker) Miss D Baker 8-10-0	Miss S Wallin (7)	78

Long handicap: Cythere 9-11, Strong Beau 9-9, Re-Release 9-6, Larksmore 8-11

BETTING: 5-1 Allezmoss, 6-1 Merano, 7-1 Esha Ness, Merry Master, Strong Beau, 8-1 Cythere, The Committee, 12-1 Knight Oil, Roc De Prince, 14-1 Re-Release, 25-1 Vulgan Warrior, 66-1 Larksmore.

1992: TUG OF GOLD 7-10-2 Mr M Armytage (11-1) D Nicholson 19 ran

FORM FOCUS

THE COMMITTEE 7½l 3rd of 11 to Wee Madge in Down Royal (3m 1f, heavy) handicap chase with ROC DE PRINCE 33½l 9th. MERRY MASTER 6l 2nd of 5 to General Pershing in Ayr (3m 1f, soft) handicap chase on penultimate start. ESHA NESS 2½l 2nd of 13 to Jodami (gave 19lb) in Newbury (3m 2l 110yd, soft) handicap chase on penultimate start. ALLEZMOSS 15l 2nd of 13 to Flashing Steel in Leopardstown (2m 5l, yielding) novice chase. MERANO beat Mountebor 10l in 5-runner Newcastle (3m, heavy) handicap chase on penultimate start. CYTHERE beat Sunbeam Talbot 3l in 7-runner Chepstow (3m 2f 110yd, good to soft) amateur riders' handicap chase. STRONG BEAU 2¾l 3rd of 12 to Dandy Minstrel in Huntingdon (3m, soft) handicap chase.
Selection: ESHA NESS

5.15 AMERICAN EXPRESS GOLD CARD HANDICAP HURDLE (Final: £20,858: 3m 2f) (23 runners)

601	23/41F3	MIDLAND GLENN 14 (BF,F,G,S) (J Eyre) J Eyre 9-11-10	A Mulholland	91
602	200-006	PACTOLUS 42 (C,F,G,S) (J Holmes) S Christian 10-11-9	G McCourt	87
603	3F46P5	PETTY BRIDGE 13 (C,D,F,G,S) (C Bouston) A James 9-11-8	R Bellamy	90
604	4-25113	CABOCHON 17 (G,S) (J Joseph) R Frost 6-11-8	P Scudamore	92
605	0-52564	KINGS RANK 36 (B,F,G,S) (Pond House Racing) M Pipe 6-11-5	D Richmond (5)	94
606	556105	FERROMYN 16 (G,S) (J McManus) E O'Grady (Ire) 8-11-5	C O'Dwyer	90
607	141131	FISSURE SEAL 16 (G,S) (Delton Syndicate) H de Bromhead (Ire) 7-11-4 (4ex)	C Swan	90
608	125-30	BEAN KING 42 (G) (J Stone) N Henderson 7-11-3	J Kavanagh	87
609	222410	JAKARRDI 17 (G) (R Johnson) Mrs J Pitman 7-11-1	M Pitman	96
610	4-52205	SNOWY LANE 32 (B,S) (M & N Plant Ltd) M Pipe 5-11-1	J Lower	92
611	200-02F	SENDAI 34 (BF,F,G,S) (Mrs M Tuinell) J Gifford 7-11-1	P Hide (5)	91
612	23062-2	SUKAAB 80 (F) (B Ryall) B Ryall 8-10-13	C Llewellyn	92
613	013302	TOP JAVALIN 14 (S) (Mrs J Reep) D Bacons 6-10-9	R Davis (5)	91
614	408405	LESBET 14 (F) (Mrs L Carlson) C Whitman 8-10-8	P Holley	97
615	363002	SIR CRUSTY 11 (C,F,G,S) (M Ash) O O'Neill 11-10-7	M A Fitzgerald	92
616	131235	CAIRNCASTLE 49 (F,G,S) (Miss S Steel) C Barwell 8-10-7	H Davies	90
617	423220	VITAL WITNESS 32 (S) (H Bleckhorn) K Morgan 6-10-6	A S Smith	96
618	116134	FURRY BABY 42 (G,S) (K Hanson) M Avison 6-10-1	A Maguire	89
619	4-24252	MANENDA 34 (G) (Mrs C Smith) D Nicholson 6-10-0	R Dunwoody	93
620	000241	SEA TROUT 12 (F) (Miss J Horwood) C Jones 9-10-0	G Upton	[illegible]
621	2/FP603	JIMBALOU 10 (F,G,S) (M Dawes) R Brazington 10-10-0	R J Beggan	88
622	121-000	ACROW LINE 12 (D,S) (R Williams) D Burchell 8-10-0	D J Burchell	88
623	280PP5	LARKADIO 10 (F) (R Papworth) M Chapman 6-10-0	W Worthington	80

Long handicap: Sea Trout 9-12, Jimbalou 9-12, Acrow Line 9-6, Larkadio 9-5.

BETTING: 6-1 Cabochon, 10-1 Sukaab, 12-1 Fissure Seal, Manenda, Sendai, 14-1 Cairncastle, Jakarrdi, Pactolus, Petty Bridge, Sea Trout, 16-1 Ferromyn, Furry Baby, Top Javalin, Vital Witness, 20-1 Jimbalou, 25-1 Bean King, Kings Rank, Midland Glenn, Snowy Lane, 33-1 Sir Crusty, 50-1 Acrow Line, Lesbet, 150-1 Larkadio.

1992: MY VIEW 8-10-4 J F Titley (33-1) M Purcell (Ire) 31 ran

FORM FOCUS

CABOCHON 5½l 3rd of 9 to Roll A Dollar in grade II Kempton (2m, good) novice hurdle. FISSURE SEAL beat Bear Babillard ½l in 16-runner Fairyhouse (2m 4f, yielding) handicap hurdle with FERROMYN (4lb better off) 11½l 5th. BEAN KING 12l 3rd of 12 to Djebel Prince in Newton Abbot (2m 1f, heavy) handicap hurdle on penultimate start. JAKARRDI beat Dari Sound 6l in 13-runner Doncaster (2m 4f, good) handicap hurdle on penultimate start. SNOWY LANE 13l 5th of 11 to Andrew's First in Newbury (2m 5l, good to soft) handicap hurdle with VITAL WITNESS (4lb worse off) 10l 8th. SENDAI 2l 2nd of 14 to Whitsford in Warwick (2m 4f, heavy) handicap hurdle on penultimate start with MANENDA (5lb better off) 17l 5th, KINGS RANK (8lb better off) 15l 6th, SNOWY LANE (7lb better off) 20l 8th and ACROW LINE (6lb better off) 5l 9th. SUKAAB ½l 2nd of 11 to Boscean Chieftain in Wincanton (2m 6l, good to soft) handicap hurdle with CAIRNCASTLE (6lb better off) 8l 3rd, JAKARRDI (1lb better off) 3l 4th, CABOCHON (5lb worse off) 8l 5th and SEA TROUT (16lb better off) 15l 7th. TOP JAVALIN 3l 2nd of 5 to Village Reindeer in Nottingham (3m 110yd, good to firm) handicap hurdle with MIDLAND GLENN (same terms) 20l 3rd. MANENDA ½l 2nd of 8 to Sweet N' Twenty in Ascot (2m 4l, good to soft) handicap hurdle with SENDAI in touch when fell 5 out. VITAL WITNESS 2l 2nd of 20 to Truth Be Told in Nottingham (2m 5l 110yd, good to soft) handicap hurdle with FURRY BABY (4lb better off) 11l 4th, PACTOLUS (6lb worse off) 8½l 6th, TOP JAVALIN (7lb better off) 13l 10th, BEAN KING (4lb better off) tailed off 16th. MIDLAND GLENN in touch when fell 4 out. PETTY BRIDGE, JIMBALOU and LARKADIO all tailed off when pulled up before 3 out. SEA TROUT beat First Crack 5l in 9-runner Ludlow (2m 5l 110yd, good to firm) handicap hurdle.
Selection: SEA TROUT

Granville Again in demand for Champion Hurdle

GRANVILLE Again moved to the forefront of the Smurfit Champion Hurdle betting yesterday with the announcement that Peter Scudamore had chosen to ride him in preference to stablemate Valfinet.

He was promoted to joint-favouritism at 6-1 by Ladbrokes, alongside Coulton and Flown. Valfinet will be ridden by Jonothan Lower.

Scudamore made his decision after working Granville Again on trainer Martin Pipe's gallops yesterday morning.

Scudamore said: "It was a very difficult decision, and I hope I've got it right. I rode Granville Again this morning and he seems in great form. I know Martin is very pleased with the horse."

Docklands Express was the best backed horse in the Gold Cup yesterday. He is now 8-1 with Hills, 9-1 with Corals and 10-1 with Ladbrokes.

SEDGEFIELD

THUNDERER
2.05 Belpenel. 2.35 Attadale. 3.10 Tigers Pet. 3.50 Lacidar. 4.30 Jolly Roger. 5.00 Cheeky Pot.
Brian Beel: 3.50 Lacidar.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM SIS

2.05 MONKEY PUZZLE SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,719: 3m 3f 110yd) (12 runners)

1	5258	STATED CASE 12 (CD,G,S) M H Easterby 8-12-0	L Wyer
2	0468	WILTOSKI 47 (B,F) I Campbell 5-11-12	R Campbell
3	R-65	CHRISTMAS HOLLY 21 (C,F,G,S) R Wood 12-11-10	R Hodge
4	4-FU	LOTHIAN ADMIRAL 95 (S) C Bell 11-11-5	Mr S Bell (7)
5	-P05	CAPTAIN AHAB 28 (F) J White 9-11-4	D Skyrme
6	5122	SERPHIL 48 (B,BF,F,S) L Lungo 5-11-3	C Grant
7	/FF0	BAWNRUADH 31 (G) T Dyer 8-10-13	A Linton (7)
8	4305	BELPENEL 21 (V,G) C Smith 7-10-7	D Wilkinson
9	00U0	ONE FOR THE CHIEF 13 R Whitaker 5-10-5	C Hawkins
10	0500	HOME TO ROOST 7 (B,C,G,S) F Jestin 13-10-2	A Dobbin (3)
11	0/P0	GOOD SESSION 21 A Potts 6-10-0	T Potts
12	-0PP	TIBER RUN 21 T Carr 8-10-0	N Smith

2-1 Serphil, 7-2 Belpenel, 9-2 Wiltoski, 6-1 Stated Case, 12-1 Captain Ahab, 16-1 One For The Chief, 20-1 others.

2.35 McEWANS 80/- SPECIAL TOP OF THE NORTH NOVICES HURDLE (£1,641: 2m 5f 110yd) (4)

1	F111	ATTADALE 5 (F,G,S) L Lungo 5-11-10	T Reed
2	44P6	KWACHA 5 W Williams 7-11-0	L O'Hara
3	P	NORTHERN CODE 31 P Dennis 6-11-0	C Dennis (3)
4	000	RUSSIAN CASTLE 32 J Wade 4-10-7	K Jones

1-6 Attadale, 8-1 Russian Castle, 10-1 Kwacha, 33-1 Northern Code.

3.10 BUTTERWICK HANDICAP CHASE (£2,794: 2m 1f) (5)

1	3054	BOUTZDAROFF 42 (D,F,G) Jimmy Fitzgerald 11-12-0	D Byrne
2	/3F6	RENAGOWN 14 (F,S) S Chadwick 10-10-13	Mr S Brisby
3	1212	TIGERS PET 172 (D,BF,F,G) W Bissill 9-10-7	C Grant
4	U683	SILVER HAZE 19 (D,F,S) J Wade 9-10-0	D Bentley (5)
5	424U	GREAT POKEY 19 (C,F) A Corner 8-10-0	A Orkney

7-4 Tigers Pet, 2-1 Boutzdaroff, 4-1 Renagown, 9-2 Silver Haze, 20-1 Great Pokey

☐ Toby Balding will inspect the course at Cheltenham today before deciding whether to run Cool Ground in Thursday's Gold Cup.

3.50 SOUTH DURHAM OPEN HUNTER CHASE (Amateurs: £1,604: 3m 3f) (10)

1	26-2	LACIDAR 8 (C,BF,F,G,S) P Sesgrave 13-12-10	A Thornton (5)
2	-0U3	PADDY HAYTON 25 (CD,F,G,S) S Leadbetter 12-12-10	R Shiels (5)
3	4P0-	CELTIC TRUST 314 (S) S Robinson 10-12-7	S Robinson (7)
4	2-30	GONER HOUSE 8 (F) M McCarthy 8-12-7	C Mulhall (7)
5	P-05	ANOTHER CORNER 14 (B,F,G,S) T Donnelly 10-12-0	R Armson (7)
6	45-	GITCHE GUMME 348 Mrs T Kinsey 12-12-0	C Taylor (7)
7	2F2-	STRAIGHT PILOT 295 (S) D Ford 11-12-0	R H Brown (5)
8	/P-0	SUNDAYSPORT SCOOP 6 (B) Mrs I Hadden 8-12-0	P Richmond (7)
9	56P-	UNCLE RAGGY 362 (S) J White 10-12-0	R Lawther (7)
10	6-54	KNIGHT OF HONOUR 154 Mrs L Ward 5-11-5	Mrs L Ward (7)

5-4 Lacidar, 7-2 Straight Pilot, 9-2 Paddy Hayton, 8-1 Uncle Raggy, 16-1 Celtic Trust, 20-1 Another Corner, 33-1 others.

4.30 BORDER KNIGHT NOVICES CHASE (£2,173: 2m 5f) (8)

1	2056	CLARE COAST 94 J Wade 7-11-4	K Jones
2	504F	JOLLY ROGER 8 (F) J Hanson 6-11-4	C Grant
3	4F-0	MOULTON BULL 111 S Leadbetter 7-11-4	C Hawkins
4	0FPP	NO REPLY 32 Mrs H Bell 7-11-4	C Dennis (3)
5	00-P	THATS NOT GOSSIP 24 S Pittendrigh 7-11-4	Mr S Pittendrigh (7)
6	P05P	UPWELL 24 (F) R Johnson 9-11-4	K Johnson
7	-322	YORKSHIRE HOLLY 8 (G,S) R Wood 10-11-4	A Orkney
8	4654	CANTGETOUT 38 Mrs S Smith 7-10-13	D Byrne

15-8 Jolly Roger, 9-4 Yorkshire Holly, 5-1 Moulton Bull, 10-1 others

5.00 SPENNYMOOR NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,702: 2m 1f 110yd) (8)

1	4112	SERAPHIM 13 (CD,BF,F,G) A Harrison 4-11-11	S Taylor (7)
2	-153	DORADUS 8 (CD,BF,G) Jimmy Fitzgerald 5-11-10	F Leahy (7)
3	1031	CHEEKY POT 25 (B,CD,F,S) Denys Smith 5-11-9	P Waggott (5)
4	063	FREE TRANSFER 17 J Wainwright 4-11-1	P Midgley (5)
5	204U	ROYAL VACATION 6 G Moore 4-10-11	N Bentley (3)
6	0540	EXPANSIONIST 31 Mrs J Ramsden 4-10-7	Mr R Hale (7)
7	P004	SALUTING WALTER 8 I Campbell 5-10-5	R Campbell
8	-P00	DAVARA 31 S Leadbetter 7-10-0	Mr D Parker (7)

5-2 Seraphim, 7-2 Doradus, 4-1 Cheeky Pot, 5-1 Expansionist, 6-1 Saluting Walter, 7-1 Royal Vacation, 10-1 Free Transfer, 20-1 Davara.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: Jimmy Fitzgerald, 20 winners from 62 runners, 32.3%; M H Easterby, 24 from 96, 25.0%; G Moore, 27 from 148, 18.2%; S Leadbetter, 3 from 18, 16.7%; Denys Smith, 19 from 161, 11.8%. (Only qualifiers)

JOCKEYS: Mr R Shiels, 3 winners from 8 rides, 37.5%; Mr A Thornton, 3 from 13, 23.1%; R Hodge, 11 from 50, 22.0%; C Grant, 47 from 217, 21.7%; L Wyer, 23 from 110, 20.9%; D Byrne, 12 from 61, 19.7%.

LINGFIELD PARK

THUNDERER
1.25 No Submission. 1.55 Respectable Jones. 2.25 *Set The Fashion*. 2.55 *Persian Gusher*. 3.25 *Palacegate Gold*. 3.55 Dancing Boat. 4.25 Flash Of Straw.

GOING: STANDARD SIS
DRAW: 5F-1M, LOW TO MIDDLE NUMBERS BEST

1.25 TONBRIDGE CLAIMING STAKES (£2,511: 1m) (9 runners)

1	1341	NO SUBMISSION 8 (CD,G,S) D Chapman 7-9-12	S Wood 5
2	03-3	SAAHI 12 (D,S) C Weedon 4-9-12	K Rutter (5) 6
3	000-	WILD AND LOOSE 19J (D,G) D Elsworth 5-9-7	T Quinn 8
4	0/0-	SYMMETRICAL 211 J Bennett 4-9-1	W Newnes 2
5	460-	UP THE PUNJAB 84 (CD,F) A Moore 4-8-10	Candy Morris 4
6	0-21	DARING PAST 12 (C) R Boss 3-8-4	W Ryan 7
7	-323	ERLKING 25 (D,G) Lord Huntingdon 3-8-4	A Munro 9
8	046-	JULIASDARKINVADER 122 A Moore 3-8-0	N Adams 1
9	5	LITTLE KARLIE 31 M Dixon 3-7-11	D Wright (7) 3

4-5 No Submission, 5-2 Erlking, 4-1 Saahi, 6-1 Daring Past, 10-1 Juliasdarkinvader, Wild And Loose, 14-1 others

1.55 TONBRIDGE CLAIMING STAKES (£2,489: 1m) (9)

1	1203	RESPECTABLE JONES 10 (C,F,G,S) R Hollinshead 7-9-7	W Ryan 4
2	4466	MAC'S FIGHTER 10 (B,C,F,G) R O'Sullivan 8-9-5	J Weaver (3) 6
3	260-	SOOTY TERN 204 (CD,F,G) J Bradley 6-9-5	N Adams 8
4	20-0	SUNSET STREET 10 (E,F,G) S Dow 5-9-1	T Quinn 5
5	346-	PRECIOUS AIR 87 (D,F,G,S) A Moore 5-9-0	B Rouse 9
6	60U-	LUCY BELLE 28J E Wheeler 4-8-10	D Harrison (3) 2
7		TROPICAL JUNGLE C Cyzer 3-8-4	D Biggs 7
8	050-	SUNBEAM CHARLIE 140 A Moore 3-8-0	Candy Morris 1
9	0-0	OVER THE CLIFFS 18 J Bennett 3-7-7	G Bardwell 3

10-11 Respectable Jones, 7-2 Mac's Fighter, 5-1 Sunset Street, 13-2 Sooty Tern, 12-1 Lucy Belle, Precious Air, 16-1 others.

2.25 ALPINE APPRENTICE MAIDEN GUARANTEED SWEEPSTAKES (£2,208: 1m 2f) (8)

1	00/2	DOC'S COAT 45J C Wildman 8-9-1	F Norton 4
2	0/00	PARISIAN 19 J Bennett 8-9-1	Claire Balding 5
3		ROBERSON 24J A Moore 5-9-1	B Russell 6
4	0/45	STORM FREE 19 L Cottrell 7-9-1	J Weaver 1
5	54-2	SET THE FASHION 98 (V,BF) Lord Huntingdon 4-9-0	D Harrison 3
6	02-4	SIMON ELLIS 73 D Laing 4-9-0	A Tucker 8
7	00-	DIVINE GLORY 154 R Voorspuy 4-8-9	B Doyle 7
8	0/6	PEACH BRANDY 31 R Voorspuy 4-8-9	S Drowne 2

5-4 Set The Fashion, 2-1 Doc's Coat, 5-1 Simon Ellis, 8-1 Well Bought, 16-1 others.

Blinkered first time

There are no horses blinkered at Lingfield Park today.

2.55 GOODWINS HANDICAP (3-Y-O: £3,143: 7f) (5)

1	1112	PINE RIDGE LAD 25 (BF,D,F) M Johnston 9-7	Dean McKeown 5
2	212	GREEN'S FAIR 8 M Bell 9-5	M Hills 1
3	-452	PERSIAN GUSHER 19 (E,CD) S Dow 9-0	T Quinn 4
4	2-1	SQUIRE YORK 31 (C) J Spearing 8-12	W Newnes 3
5	3101	MARK'S CLUB 26 (B,C,D,G) R O'Sullivan 8-11	D Biggs 2

5-2 Green's Fair, 3-1 Squire York, Mark's Club, 7-2 Pine Ridge Lad, Persian Gusher.

3.25 SPRING HANDICAP (£2,847: 6f) (9)

1	4536	SIR TASKER 11 (C,F,G) J Harris 5-10-0	B Doyle (5) 5
2	0064	RUSHANES 10 (CD,S) T Casey 6-9-11	B Russell (7) 8
3	-114	THE INSTITUTE BOY 33 (B,CD) K Burke 3-9-6	S Webster 4
4	220-	CHESHIRE ANNIE 183 (F) R Simpson 4-9-6	A Tucker (3) 7
5	0056	HINARI VIDEO 12 (C,D,G,S) M Johnston 8-9-1	Dean McKeown 2
6	0-54	PALACEGATE GOLD 12 (B,CD,F) R Hodges 4-8-8	W Ryan 6
7	63-1	SPENDER 17 (CD) P Harris 4-8-8	N Adams 1
8	003-	LITMORE DANCER 89 J Bradley 5-8-4	Michael Bradley (7) 9
9	500-	ZINBAQ 136 (D,F,G,S) C Benstead 7-8-4	T Williams 3

3-1 Spender, 4-1 The Institute Boy, 9-2 Sir Tasker, 8-1 Hinari Video, 9-1 Palacegate Gold, 10-1 Litmore Dancer, Zinbaq, 12-1 Rushanes, 16-1 others.

3.55 TUNBRIDGE WELLS HANDICAP (£2,856: 1m 2f) (14)

1	00-3	CAMDEN'S RANSOM 19 (CD) D Elsworth 6-10-0	B Doyle (5) 10
2	320-	SALBYNG 154 (G,S) J Hills 5-9-4	M Hills 7
3	2141	PIGALLE WONDER 12 (B,CD) R O'Sullivan 5-9-4	D Biggs 4
4	2/24	SUPER LUNAR 17 (F,G) L Cottrell 9-9-1	G Carter 6
5	0-62	TADORA 19 (C,B) C Benstead 4-8-11	T Quinn 14
6	0-42	BALLYRANTER 24 (G) H Collingridge 4-8-9	J Quinn 3
7	606-	WINGED WHISPER 139 (F) J Pickering 4-8-7	D Harrison (3) 5
8	5324	APPLIANCEOFSCIENCE 12 (D,G) A Reid 6-8-3	P McCabe (7) 8
9	-330	PREMIER DANCE 24 (CD) D Haydn Jones 6-7-8	G Bardwell 2
10	25-3	DANCING BOAT 6J J Harris 4-7-7	S Wood 12
11	4-04	ROYAL ACCLAIM 36 (V,C,F,S) J Bradley 8-7-7	N Adams 11
12	00-0	ROCKY BAY 73 (S) D Haydn Jones 4-7-7	D Wright (7) 9
13	/000	KACHINA MAID 11 (F) Mrs A Knight 6-7-7	F Norton (3) 13
14	000-	SAYSANA 189 (F) A Moore 6-7-7	B Russell (7) 1

100-30 Ballyranter, 4-1 Pigalle Wonder, 11-2 Super Lunar, 7-1 Tadora, 8-1 Camden's Ransom, Dancing Boat, 12-1 Premier Dance, 16-1 others.

4.25 PANTILES HANDICAP (£2,611: 1m 4f) (8)

1	1211	STRAT'S LEGACY 12 (CD,F) D Arbuthnot 6-10-0	T Quinn 2
2	0-82	SINCLAIR LAD 12 (F,G) R Hodges 5-9-8	W Ryan 1
3	06-0	OUR EDDIE 24 (V) B Gubby 4-9-4	W Newnes 7
4	5034	IRON BARON 21J (D,G,S) R Hollinshead 4-8-11	A Garth (5) 5
5	-264	DR ZEVA 26 (F) (C,D) M Dixon 7-8-3	D Wright (7) 3
6	6264	LA REINE ROUGE 12 (CD) Mrs A Knight 5-7-13	F Norton (3) 8
7	0503	FLASH OF STRAW 12 (B) J Akehurst 4-7-10	T Williams 4
8	05-0	PHIL-BLAKE 19 S Mellor 6-7-9	N Adams 6

3-1 Strat's Legacy, 9-2 Sinclair Lad, 5-1 Dr Zeva, Flash of Straw, 6-1 Iron Baron, La Reine Rouge, 10-1 Phil-Blake, 16-1 Our Eddie

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: J Harris, 5 winners from 15 runners, 33.3%; R Hollinshead, 11 from 34, 32.4%; Lord Huntingdon, 14 from 45, 31.1%; R Boss, 9 from 32, 28.1%; M Johnston, 17 from 80, 21.3%; R O'Sullivan, 25 from 126, 19.8%

JOCKEYS: T Quinn, 53 winners from 263 rides, 20.2%; Dean McKeown, 29 from 145, 20.0%; B Russell, 6 from 31, 19.4%; K Rutter, 7 from 39, 17.9%; A Munro, 16 from 95, 16.8%; M Hills, 26 from 163, 16.0%.

Double boost for Maguire

ADRIAN Maguire bounced back from a heavy fall at Chepstow on Saturday with a double at Plumpton yesterday. The Irishman showed he was suffering no ill effects with victories on Baby Wizzard and Blushing Belle.

Owner John Galvanoni's pre-season bet that Richard Rowe would train 19 winners was landed when Baby Wizzard won the opener. The £500 at 20-1 netted £10,000.

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Brilliant Brazilian leads new generation promising bright future for football

Pele's spirit lives on in No. 10 shirt of Adriano



Rob Hughes, football correspondent, reports from Melbourne on the flowering talents that have graced the world under-20 championship

The Australians who greeted us here ten days ago had forebodings concerning the extinction of the koala bear. Given the way defensive football has polluted our game, some of us arrived with our own fears about players of rare pedigree becoming just as thin on the ground.

But, as the Aussies say, no worries mate. The new generation of performers are here; enjoy, enjoy. At previous world under-20 championships, the likes of Maradona and van Basten made their mark and though national moulds are as diverse as ever, we have evidence in this tournament that regeneration is underfoot.

Offering no apology for bias, we begin with the Brazilians, a peacock of the football species. Adriano is the footballing name of Silva Gerlim, a playmaker given the No. 10 shirt made famous by Pelé.

This new No. 10 is as special, and as vulnerable, as all the pretenders. At 18, he already transfers his talents from the wild economy of Brazil to the safe banking of Switzerland with Neuchâtel Xàmax, which means the Italians are grooming him, watching him, waiting for the maturity required in their league.

Heavy of thigh, but masterfully quick of eye, Adriano strikes a free kick reminiscent of Rivelino. He bends them with his right foot the way Yuri Geller bent spoons. He scores, but also creates; he sits in midfield stroking passes for the flowing runners around him.

But then the mood takes him. Against Mexico, he surged forward from 50 yards out. He drew one defender, slipped him on the inside, drew another and went outside. As if turbo-charged, he was clear for a second of the entire defence and then, youth or no youth, a thug's tackle from behind chopped him down.

So instead of a marvellous repeat of the solo goal he scored at a previous under-17 tournament, Adriano could exact only nonchalant revenge from the penalty spot.

There will be other moments from this, the most complete 18-year-old on the world stage. Arguably, his closest rival, indeed a young man who radiates more joy, is Nii Lamptey.

Critics have questioned his age ever since, allegedly at 15, Lamptey was smuggled out of school in Ghana into the Belgian first-division club, Anderlecht. The question is futile. Precision, as in birth dates, is no Ghanaian strength. Spontaneity, as in the game, surely is, and Lamptey, freed of club duties, freed of the burden of Marseilles wanting to pay £10 million for him, is enjoying this tournament.

He has scored once but accepted responsibility for others around him. He has drawn markers like flies and, with his intuitive quick passes, brought into play the darting youngsters, unbelievably aged 15 and 16, already on the threshold of turning Ghana's full national team into child's play.

Yet, where we come from, boys are men before we know it. England's outstanding figure is the big No. 5, Ian Pearce. From the age of ten, though born in Suffolk, he knew he would wear Chelsea's blue. Already a first-teamer, having given up A-level history and sociology when Chelsea accelerated him into their team a week after his seventeenth birthday, he wins virtually everything in the air for this young England side and, since they have scored only three times in four games, his presence is vital there, too.

England have scored only from set-pieces. Pearce headed the first goal from a corner and, at 6ft 1in, and 12st, his appearance at the near post has helped turn long throws-in into the other two goals.

A man, in a youth's clothing. But Australia also have tough competitors. Their captain, Kevin Muscat, is the epitome of Bryan Robson in competitive leadership and the willingness to run his bones into another player's boots or elbows.

Against Uruguay, he suffered such a severe graze to the right thigh that infection travelled to the groin, which swelled to twice its normal size. He played on and midway through the second half the team doctor, Siri Kanangara, rushed onto the field to reset the captain's dislocated jaw.

"I don't know how he got through the game," the physician said. "I had to give him every penicillin under the sun to get him on the field." And this, they say, is a tournament for youth.

We do sometimes wonder when we watch the South Koreans training. Their regimented military drill is carried out three times a day. When they collapsed in tears, eliminated without winning or losing a game, we knew that they had to return to a military situation that might make conscripts of every one of them because the communist North Korea is building an atomic bomb.

While here, Korea's No. 10, Choi Yong-Soo, a Yonsei University student, looked what his people claim him to be, potentially the finest forward developed in Asia. He is tall enough to be the catalyst for every high ball, but also quick enough and deft enough to hold the ball on the ground, either to turn and strike or to wait and bring his colleagues into the penalty area. He has such a disciplined approach to this, such control of mind and body, that we easily see him as the star of the Orient.

Contrast this to the temperamental South Americans who come in abundance at these events. Henry Zambrano, of Colombia, is speed personified but unfortunate to captain an indisciplined side. Gabriel Garcia, of Mexico, rarely showed class commensurate with his billing, but Fernando Correa demonstrated again that Uruguay, from a population of three million, has astonishing ability to produce jewels of the game.

He might be the successor to Enzo Francescoli and Correa benefits from playing alongside the two-footed, stocky Fabian O'Neil, a goalscorer who has caught the eye of Gary Lineker. Even so, Correa's own quicksilver movement, his flowing mane of black hair, conjures a marvellous sight and sometimes conjures up chances out of nothing. A pity that his team disintegrated into rank behaviour at the end, several players spitting at Australian opponents.

Six players down, the magnificent seventh? It has to be a goalkeeper and either England's penalty-saver, David Watson, or Brazil's immense, acrobatic Dida could yet claim to be the best here. Meanwhile, an American freshman, whose goalkeeping ability was scarcely known to his own colleagues, has performed with inspirational agility. Jeff Cassar, born in Michigan but in his first year at Florida International University, arrived in Melbourne as the No. 2, and quickly asserted himself.

Five years ago, this Winston Churchill High School pupil saw himself as a striker. Somewhere between that dream and growing into a slender 6ft 2in and rather unimposing character, he acquired the goalkeeping bug.

The United States' coach, Bobby Howe, elevated him on to the world stage and, in every match, he has performed heroically. Against England, he dived to his left to turn away a flick from three yards from Barmby; in the same game, Cassar arched his back to palm over a rising volley from Pollock.

Against Korea, against Turkey and then even against Brazil, he stood his ground, created his own angles and either helped the United States to perform beyond their predicted status or, in the final hour, to prevent Brazil from routing his team.

Surprisingly, he leaves Australia without a word from any European club. It will come. A rookie goalkeeper he may be, but he puts in mind Bruce Grobbelaar, whom Crewe Alexandra plucked out of Vancouver. Work permits permitting, what England could do for a voluble Zimbabwean, we might very well do for this quiet American.

☐ Nick Barmby and Andy Myers are struggling to recover from nagging injuries in time for England's semi-final against Ghana tomorrow. Barmby, of Tottenham Hotspur, and Myers, of Chelsea, both hobbled off during the quarter-final win over Mexico that ended with a penalty shoot-out. Barmby had been passed fit to play, but appeared troubled by his sore shins and a knee injury suffered in an early tackle. Four minutes before half-time, he was replaced by Julian Joachim, of Leicester City. Shortly afterwards, Myers went off with a recurrence of a toe injury.

SEMI-FINALS: Melbourne: Australia v Brazil (kick-off 8.15am GMT tomorrow). Sydney: England v Ghana (kick-off 10.30am GMT, televised on Sky Sports 10.30am-12.30pm tomorrow).



High flyer: Adriano is the latest to inherit Pelé's mantle and No. 10 shirt. Photograph: Allsport



Pearce: towering



Lamptey: joyful

SPORT IN BRIEF

Table tennis players may not compete

ENGLAND'S table tennis players may consider withdrawing from the world championships in Gothenburg in May because they feel they would be competing at a disadvantage (Richard Eaton writes). The risk has come about because of last week's rule changes by the International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF) on the glue controversy.

Don Parker, the England table tennis manager, said that the federation has failed to address the issues. The English Table Tennis Association (ETTA) has banned the reglueing of bats and all so-called "fast" glues, which enhance the speed of the ball off the bat. But the ITTF has voted to continue allowing certain listed "fast" glues and to introduce a detector device to discover those which are dangerously toxic.

Parker is worried that the detector could cause innocent competitors to be unfairly penalised. Adhesives used to stick layers of plywood within the bat might fail the test, causing the owner to be disqualified from the championships. The ETTA is likely to discuss these problems at its national council meeting on April 17.

ABA's future in doubt

BOXING: The Amateur Boxing Association could be dissolved next month. The ABA council gave a 21-16 vote of no confidence in the association's officers at the weekend and the national committee will be asked to wind up the organisation at a meeting in Oxford on April 3. The ABA, which is 113 years old, was in serious financial trouble once the Sports Council withdrew its grant of £108,000 last week. It was forecast that the ABA would be incurring losses of nearly six figures within as many months.

Michael Ayers's challenge to the World Boxing Organisation lightweight champion, Giovanni Parisi, was confirmed yesterday and will take place in Rome on April 16. Ayers, who boasts 13 consecutive victories, successfully defended his World Boxing Council international title against Danny Myburgh, of South Africa, last month.

Bowlers in command

CRICKET: Andy Caddick, Mark Ilott and Dominic Cork bowled England A into a strong position against a Western Australian XI in Perth on the second day of their final tour match yesterday. Western Australia were made to struggle to 190 for seven in reply to England's first-innings 293, with the trio proving a handful on a fast, springy pitch. Only Murray Goodwin, who made an unbeaten 59, and David Virgo, the opener, with a painstaking 37 in three hours, played with any confidence. Caddick, the Somerset fast bowler, extracted steep bounce to force Jack Russell, the wicketkeeper, to field the ball head-high. James Boiling, of Surrey, pulled off two sharp catches in the gully.

Chorley fight back

RUGBY LEAGUE: The Rugby Football League (RFL) has been given a seven-day deadline by lawyers acting for Chorley and Highfield to reverse the decision to revert to two divisions next season and hive off the bottom three clubs in the third division. Lindsay Hoyle, the Chorley chairman, said that as well as breaching its bylaws, the restructuring was against natural justice. "If we don't hear anything, claims will be submitted for compensation," he said. Nottingham, who also face extinction, are negotiating a redundancy package from the RFL. Barrow and Blackpool, who are at risk of joining the reserves' competition, planned to attend a meeting of clubs in Chorley last night.

Couples sinks Gamez

GOLF: Fred Couples won the Honda Classic at Weston Hills country club in Fort Lauderdale on Sunday, beating Robert Gamez at the second extra hole after they had tied on 207, nine under par, a stroke ahead of Larry Mize. Gamez, of Las Vegas, who won twice in his rookie season in 1990, hit his third shot at the 18th, the second play-off hole, into the water. Gamez scored a final round of 68, but after ten holes he had been six shots behind Couples. The Masters champion dropped his first shot at the 11th, and two more bogeys cut his lead to one. He then sliced a four-iron into the water at the 16th and Gamez led with a birdie two at the 17th, but Couples holed from a bunker at the same hole.

Group 4 leads way

YACHTING: Mike Golding and his crew aboard the leading British Steel Challenge yacht, Group 4 Securitas, were racing towards Cape Town at more than ten knots last night as strong south-westerly beam winds swept away the frustrating calms experienced by the entire fleet last weekend. Group 4 is now well within 500 miles of The Cape and is expected to complete this 6,800-mile stage from Hobart, Tasmania, on Thursday.

Taylor on committee

HOCKEY: Ian Taylor, the goalkeeper of Great Britain's 1988 Olympic gold medal-winning team in Seoul, has been appointed to serve on the Hockey Association's management committee. Taylor made 80 appearances for Britain and 91 outdoors for England. David Whittle, 45, takes up the post of manager of the England team. The club affiliation fee for the Hockey Association next season will be £120 per team plus VAT, reducible to £60 for the last team.

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Rutherford holds Test key

NEW Zealand, with five wickets remaining, were within 33 runs of beating Australia, and so gaining their first home Test victory in three years, at the close of play on the fourth day of the third and final Test match in Auckland.

In pursuit of 201 for victory, they had reached 168 for five with Ken Rutherford, the last of the specialist batsmen, 31 not out and the wicketkeeper, Tony Blain, as his partner.

After Australia had lost their last four second-innings wickets for 59, as they were dismissed for 285, New Zealand began their attempt to square the series as if they were playing a one-day game. Greatbatch repeatedly charging McDermott and Hughes before he was bowled for a rapid 29 by the latter, who may have landed himself in trouble by apparently spitting in Greatbatch's direction and making an obscene gesture to the crowd.

Wright, in probably his last Test innings, scored a patient 33 before being given run out after the third umpire had watched a television replay.

Jones and Crowe took the score to 109 before the New Zealand captain lost his intriguing battle with the leg spinner, Warne, who beat him on several occasions until persuading him to pop up a simple catch to Justin Langer.

Twenty runs later Warne struck again, bowling Jones for 26, and New Zealand were looking shaky at 129 for four. Harris failed to score but Rutherford and Blain swung the balance back in New Zealand's favour in the last 45 minutes, adding 34 priceless runs.

The match referee, Javed Burki, of Pakistan, said on television during the tea interval that the incident between Hughes and Greatbatch was "a bit of fun". Shortly before tea, one of the umpires, Chris King, spoke to the Australia captain, Allan Border, pointing at Martyn, who had apparently been "sledging" the opposing batsmen.

It remains to be seen whether Burki will take any action under the game's code of conduct, which is aimed at stamping out such behaviour.

Dean Jones and Tony Dodemaide are joining the Australians for the forthcoming one-day internationals, with McDermott and Langer returning home, the fast bowler to rest a groin injury before the England tour.

SCOREBOARD

AUSTRALIA: First Innings 139 (D K Morrison 6 for 37)

Second Innings

D C Boon lbw b Su'a	53
M A Taylor st Blain b Patel	3
J Langer lbw b Patel	0
D R Martyn c Greatbatch b Patel	74
S R Waugh lbw b Patel	0
*A R Border c Harris b Watson	71
†I A Healy c Blain b Patel	24
M G Hughes not out	31
P R Reiffel b Watson	1
S K Warne c Jones b Morrison	2
C J McDermott c Wright b Watson	10
Extras (b 1, lb 7, nb 6)	15
Total	285

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-5, 2-8, 3-115, 4-119, 5-160, 6-226, 7-261, 8-271, 9-274.

BOWLING: Morrison 33-8-81-1 (nb 4); Patel 34-2-93-5, Watson 19-5-43-3 (nb 1); Su'a 18-4-56-1 (nb 3); Harris 2-1-4-0.

NEW ZEALAND: First Innings 224 (S K Warne 4 for 8).

Second Innings

J G Wright run out	33
M J Greatbatch b Hughes	29
A H Jones b Warne	26
*M D Crowe c Langer b Warne	25
K R Rutherford not out	31
C Z Harris lbw b Waugh	0
†T E Blain not out	19
Extras (lb 4, nb 11)	5
Total (5 wkts)	188

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-44, 2-65, 3-109, 4-129, 5-134.

BOWLING: McDermott 12-3-38-0 (nb 1); Hughes 11-1-40-1; Reiffel 6-1-19-0; Warne 22-7-41-2; Border 6-2-11-0, Waugh 8-1-15-1

Flowers blossom

GRANT and Andrew Flower frustrated India's bowlers with an unbroken 69-run partnership on the third day of Zimbabwe's first overseas Test match, in Delhi yesterday.

Zimbabwe, replying to India's first-innings total of 536 for seven declared, had slipped to 83 for three after tea before Andrew Flower joined his younger brother to take the score to 152 for three at the close.

Grant, the steadier of the pair, scored 47 in 240 minutes of cautious accumulation while Andrew, a left-hander, made a more adventurous 46 not out in 117 minutes. He hit seven boundaries and was particularly severe on Rajesh Chauhan, who he struck for two fours in one over.

The Zimbabwe innings had begun poorly when Kapil Dev struck with the first ball to trap Kevin Arnott. The straight ball kept low and rapped Arnott on the front pad as he shuffled across.

Vinod Kambli had earlier fallen only nine runs short of India's highest Test score. Kambli, 21, had added 20 runs to his overnight score of 207 when he gently tapped a return catch to John Traicos.

For the second time in his four Test appearances, it left him just short of Sunil Gavaskar's highest Indian Test score of 236 not out against West Indies at Madras in 1984. Kambli scored 224 against England in Bombay.

SCOREBOARD

INDIA: First Innings

M Prabhakar c A Flower b Brandes	3
N S Sidhu lbw b Traicos	61
V G Kambli c and b Traicos	227
S R Tendulkar c Traicos b Ranchod	62
*M Azharuddin run out	42
P K Amre not out	52
Kapil Dev st A Flower b Traicos	16
†V Yadav b Brain	30
A Kumble not out	18
Extras (b 17, lb 6, w 2)	25
Total (7 wkts dec)	536

Manindar Singh and R K Chauhan did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-19, 2-128, 3-283, 4-370, 5-434, 6-484, 7-507

BOWLING: Brandes 28-4-93-0; Brain 34-1-148-2, Shah 10-3-43-0; Traicos 50-4-186-3; Ranchod 12-0-45-1.

ZIMBABWE: First Innings

K J Arnott lbw b Kapil Dev	0
G W Flower not out	47
A D Campbell b Chauhan	32
*D L Houghton lbw b Kumble	18
†A Flower not out	46
Extras (lb 5, w 1, nb 3)	9
Total (3 wkts)	152

G Brant, E A Brandes, D H Brain, A Shah, A J Traicos and U Ranchod to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-0, 2-83, 3-93.

BOWLING: Kapil Dev 5.2-1-13-1 (w1); Prabhakar 11-3-16-0 (nb2); Chauhan 19-3-49-1; Kumble 19-5-42-1; Manander Singh 13-1-27-0 (nb1).

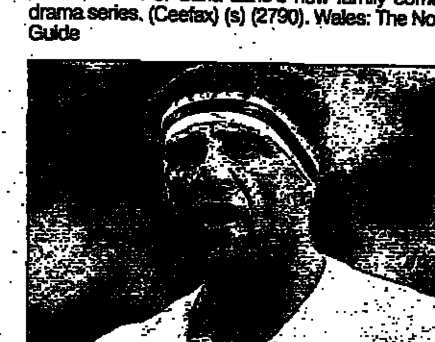
SNOW REPORTS

	Depth (cm) L	U	Conditions Piste	Runs to resort	Weather	Temp °C	Last snow fall
AUSTRIA							
Kitzbühel	20	140	variable	patchy	bright	4	7/3
(Best snow in Pass Thurn; snow thinning on lower runs)							
Lech	75	145	good	open	cloudy	5	7/3
(Snow softening by midday; some slick patches)							
Meyrhofen	20	120	variable	closed	clear	7	7/3
(Spring snow on upper slopes; all lifts open)							
Obergurgl	80	200	variable	open	sunny	4	7/3
(Dry snow on packed base; entire ski area open)							
Seefeld	60	100	variable	open	overcast	3	8/3
(Some slick patches; best on upper north-facing runs)							
FRANCE							
Alpe d'Huez	20	250	patchy	bare	sunny	5	3/3
(Diminishing depths due to mild weather; 57 of 108 runs open)							
Les Arcs	45	340	good	good	sunny	0	4/3
(Packed powder at most levels; all pistes groomed)							
Les Menuires	25	150	good	thin	sunny	4	4/3
(Mont de la Chambre recommended; 53 lifts open)							
Megeve	0	150	variable	closed	bright	5	3/3
(Skiing above 1,600m only; powder on uppermost pistes)							
Val d'Isère	120	220	good	open	sunny	0	3/3
(Packed powder on all pistes; 47 lifts and 66 pistes open)							
ITALY							
Courmayeur	70	200	variable	patchy	sunny	7	8/3
(Runs hard in morning, softer later; best snow on the Lago Checrcuit)							
Livigno	30	100	good	open	clear	-6	28/2
(Lower icy early on; 40 kilometres of cross-country and 26 of 27 lifts open)							
SWITZERLAND							
Klosters	40	190	good	open	cloudy	0	5/3
(Dry snow on hard-packed base; 40 kilometres of cross-country open)							
Saas Fee	50	275	fair	open	sunny	0	4/3
(Hard-packed snow at all levels; entire ski area open)							
St Moritz	40	80	fair	open	fine	0	3/3
(Still good conditions overall; some lower runs wearing)							
Wengen	20	90	compact	thin	overcast	3	3/3
(Wet patches appearing by midday; all 23 lifts open)							

Information supplied by Ski Hotline.

BBC1

6.00 Business Breakfast (19603) **7.00 BBC Breakfast News** (75122806)
9.05 Kilroy (s) (5202429) **9.45 Ross King.** Game show (s) (4596158)
10.00 News, regional news and weather (1310111) **10.05 Playdays.** For the very young (s) (7214061)
10.30 Good Morning . . . with Anne and Nick. Weekday magazine series (58888448)
12.15 Pebble Mill (s) (6526332) **12.55 Regional News** and weather (29765871)
1.00 One O'Clock News with Philip Hayton. (Ceefax) Weather (53974) **1.30 Neighbours.** (Ceefax) (s) (77893559)
1.50 Cheltenham Festival. Live coverage of the 2.15, 2.50, 3.30 (Smurfitt Champion Hurdle) and 4.05 races (59728968)
4.20 The Family Ness. Animation (r) (6794887) **4.25 Hangar 17.** Last in the entertainment series. (Ceefax) (s) (9240871) **4.50 Two Weeks With the Queen.** Episode two of the five-part story told by Kristian Schmid (s) (6095719)
5.00 Newsround (2563697) **5.10 Billy Webb's Amazing Story.** Episode one of a six-part children's drama (r). (Ceefax) (s) (4422351)
5.35 Neighbours (r). (Ceefax) (s) (910061). Northern Ireland: Inside Ulster
6.00 Six O'Clock News with Peter Sissons *and Anna* Ford. (Ceefax) Weather (871)
6.30 Regional News Magazines (351). Northern Ireland: Neighbours
7.00 Holiday introduced by Jill Dando in Nepal where she samples an environmental adventure holiday. Elsewhere John Pitman tries a singles break on the Greek island of Symi. (Ceefax) (s) (7582)
7.30 EastEnders. (Ceefax) (s) (535)
8.00 Luv. Part two of Carla Lane's new family comedy drama series. (Ceefax) (s) (2790). Wales: The Noble Guide



On the ball: rugby's Wade Dooley (8.30pm)

8.30 A Question of Sport presented by David Coleman. This week Ian Botham and Bill Beaumont are joined by Wade Dooley, Trish Johnson, Steve Nicol and Matt Ryan. (Ceefax) (s) (5697)
9.00 Nine O'Clock News *with Martyn Lewis. (Ceefax)* Regional news and weather (9061)
9.30 Budget Broadcast by the Chancellor of the Exchequer. (Ceefax) (295326)
9.40 Smith and Jones. Mel and Griff introduce more of their favourite sketches from previous series (r). (Ceefax) (657622). Wales: Week In Week Out
10.10 Harry Enfield's Television Programme. A showcase for the comedian's collection of comic characters (r). (Ceefax) (s) (180055). Northern Ireland: Country Times 10.35 Harry Enfield; Wales: Luv
10.40 Film: Glitz (1988) starring Jimmy Smits and Markie Post. A made-for-television drama about a Miami policeman in Atlantic City on the trail of his girlfriend's killers. Directed by Sandor Stern. (Ceefax) (7012871). Northern Ireland: 11.05-12.35am Film: Glitz; Wales: Harry Enfield 11.10 The Road to Europe — Cardiff v Wrexham 11.40 Film: Glitz 1.10 News and weather
12.10am Weather (6685475). Ends at **12.15**
2.15 BBC Select: Executive Business Club. Scrambled (811611) **3.15-3.45 Legal Network Television.** Scrambled (12982)

BBC2

6.45 Open University: Magnetic Earth (4263210) **7.10** Biology: Organelles and Origins (3844448) **7.35** Geology: Mapping in the Yorkshire Dales (7943351)
8.00 Breakfast News (3335784)
8.15 Westminster. A round-up of news from both Houses (4588326)
9.00 Daytime on Two: Seeing Through Science (s) (3688142) **9.25** Job Bank (9421697) **9.45** You and Me (4416500) **10.00** Over the Moon (5873142) **10.15** Look and Read (7652429) **10.40** Mathsphere (7244448). Northern Ireland: Study Ireland **11.00** Watch (7055142) **11.15** English Express (s) (5792245) **11.35** Science Challenge (s) (2413790) **11.55** Into Music (s) (2031968) **12.15** Thunderbirds (in Hindi) (7165993) **12.20 Q and A** (s) (7162806) **12.25** Lifeschool (s) (3997719) **12.50** Teaching Today (s) (9421158) **1.20** Johnson and Friends (s) (87089448) **1.30** Orville and Cuddles (86694239) **1.35** Bunyip (8668210) **1.40** Cross Currents (65198121)
2.00 News and weather followed by **You and Me** (r) (23275581) **2.15 Arthur Negus Enjoys.** A visit to Dodington, a Georgian mansion near Bristol, designed by James Wyatt, in the company of historian Dr John Martin Robinson (r) (23960177)



Analysis: Dimbleby, Jay and Snow (2.30pm)

2.30 The Budget. David Dimbleby introduces live coverage of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Norman Lamont's, third Budget. With expert analysis from Peter Jay and Peter Snow (4259239)
6.00 Film: Escape From Fort Bravo (1953) starring William Holden and Eleanor Parker. Intelligent western drama, set in 1860s Arizona, that balances the North/South conflict with whites v Indians. Directed by John Sturges (84059500)
7.35 Animation Now: *Coeur de Secours*, a French short directed by Piot Kamler (139500)
7.45 Assignment: Globo — the Power of Soap. Hugh O'Shaughnessy investigates Globo, the Brazilian media empire (362968)
8.30 Secret Nature: Beyond Tide's Reach. The first of a seven-part series exploring the natural beauty and wildlife of the English Channel. (Ceefax) (s) (3239)
9.00 Quantum Leap. *Science fiction drama series* starring Scott Bakula as a time-trapped scientist. (Ceefax) (s) (110413)
9.50 40 Minutes: Will They Ring Tonight? (Ceefax) (s) See Choice (591245)
10.30 Budget Broadcast by the Chancellor of the Exchequer (481719)
10.40 Newsnight *with Jeremy Paxman* (832351)
11.25 The Late Show. Arts and media magazine (s) (698697) **12.05am Weather** (1364833)
12.10 Jamaica and the Sea. The threat of pollution to Jamaica's coral reefs (4667369). Ends at **12.35**
2.00 Nightschool TV. Teaching Today (80524). Ends at **4.00**

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CHOICE



Heart of the matter: Terence Lewis (ITV, 10.50pm)

Extraordinary People: On a Knife Edge
ITV, 10.50pm

Terence Lewis says he went into medicine to please his father and further his rugby career. He is being facetious. Lewis is a distinguished heart surgeon, based at the Royal London Hospital and carrying out hundreds of operations a year. He enjoys the job but dislikes the politics that go with it. Demand for surgery *is far outstripping resources and he has a long waiting* list. It is hard telling a patient he will have to wait five months. Malcolm Brinkworth's film observes Lewis at the bedside, in the operating theatre and at management meetings. It is a revealing portrait of a sensitive and sympathetic professional who wishes that surgery was only about making people better but has to accept that it is also a business.

In Suspicious Circumstances
ITV, 9.00pm

Looking suitably authoritative behind thick spectacles and a heavy overcoat, Edward Woodward introduces more true tales of murder and mystery. Tonight's two cases gain added interest by being thematically linked. Both took place in the 1930s, but at different ends of the social scale. Elvira Barney, played by Nicola Duffett, was a spoiled young socialite put on trial for killing her lover. The evidence was strong but daddy could afford one of the leading barristers of the day, Sir Patrick Hastings. For Robert Hoolhouse (Michael Yeaman), accused of murdering a farmer's wife, the position was very different. He was an unemployed farm labourer on legal aid and never stood a chance. There was one law for the rich, the programme is clearly saying, and another for the poor.

Without Walls
Channel 4, 9.00pm

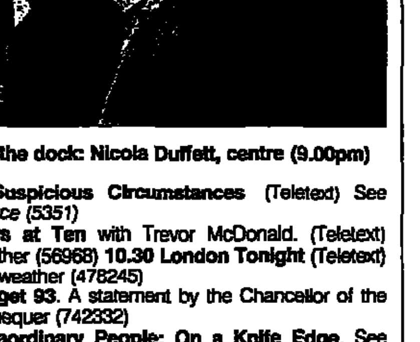
The American writer, Camille Paglia, attempts to deconstruct the image of the Princess of Wales with the help of J.G. Ballard and various royal watchers. Paglia claims that the princess is one of the most complex personalities of the 20th century. To back this assertion we are offered comparisons with Greek goddesses, Pre-Raphaelite heroines, Greta Garbo and Mother Teresa. On top of all this, the princess is applauded as the ultimate feminist. I preferred the other *Without Walls* film, a quirky little piece about the poet, playwright, actor and recluse Heathcote Williams. It reveals that Williams has a secret admirer. He is Al Pacino, who has spent large sums of his own money filming a little-known Williams play.

40 Minutes: Will They Ring Tonight?
BBC2, 9.50pm

The strongest film in the *40 Minutes* season so far looks at the lottery of transplant surgery. Many more people need operations than there are organs available and saving lives means waiting for someone else to die. The shortage of donor organs is becoming more acute as fewer people are killed in road accidents. John Wallwork, head of the transplant unit at Papworth Hospital, says the only long-term answer may be to use organs from animals. Meanwhile he has to do his best from human sources. The film highlights his predicament through the stories of four people, all under 40, who will soon die unless they get new hearts or lungs.
Peter Waymark

ITV LONDON

6.00 GMTV with Michael Wilson, Eamonn Holmes and Fiona Armstrong. Among the guests are Don Williams and Cheri Lunghi (8814790)
9.25 Jeopardy! Quiz game (3685055) **9.55 London Today** *(Teletext) and weather (7127581)*
10.00 The Time . . . The Place . . . (1826806)
10.35 This Morning. Family magazine (39760626)
12.10 Wizadora. Children's puppet series (6935413)
12.30 ITN Lunchtime News with Nicholas Owen and Sonia Ruseler (Teletext) Weather (4130245) **1.05 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (57335177)
1.15 Home and Away. *Australian family drama.* (Teletext) (306448) **1.45 A Country Practice.** Medical drama (s) (454239)
2.15 Travel UK. Valerie Singleton and Chris Packham explore Daphne du Maurier's Cornwall, visit a chocolate factory and take a sculpture trail in the Lake District (217500) **2.45 Families** (216871)
3.15 Budget 93 *Live coverage form the Commons of* the Chancellor of the Exchequer's third Budget speech. With analysis from John Suchet and Nicholas Owen, Julia Somerville talks to politicians and Dermot Murnaghan finds out the City's reactions (61469871)
5.10 Home and Away (r) (Teletext) (6517448)
5.40 Early Evening News with John Suchet (Teletext) Weather (455239)
6.00 London Tonight. The guests include Dame Judi Dench (74852)
7.00 Emmerdale. (Teletext) (5210)
7.30 Beam and Da Silva. This week Roger Beam and Denise Da Silva investigate London's religious cults (603)
8.00 The Bill: Breaking the Chain. Sgt Kendall clashes with the CID over her preoccupation with a young offender. Starring Liz Crowther. (Teletext) (4158)
8.30 Stuck On You. The fourth in the *Comedy Playhouse* series. Neil Morrissey and Amelia Bullmore star as a couple who were once in love but now fight like cat and dog and are unable to sell their squalid flat. (Teletext) (s) (6993)

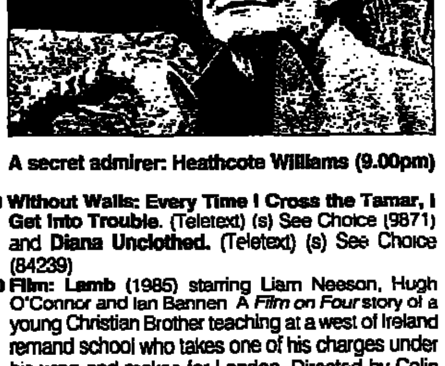


In the dock: Nicola Duffett, centre (9.00pm)

9.00 In Suspicious Circumstances (Teletext) See *Choice (5351)*
10.00 News at Ten with Trevor McDonald. (Teletext) Weather (56968) **10.30 London Tonight** (Teletext) and weather (478245)
10.40 Budget 93. A statement by the Chancellor of the Exchequer (742332)
10.50 Extraordinary People: On a Knife Edge. See Choice (739603)
11.50 Prisoner: Cell Block H (764719)
12.40 Nigel Mansell's Indycar '93. The first of a new series previews the coming Indycar season (6699678) **1.10 The Little Picture Show.** The latest video releases reviewed (8448104)
2.10 Film: Escapement (1957, b/w) starring Rod Cameron, Mary Murphy and Meredith Edwards. Mystery thriller about an American insurance investigator in Europe to look into the mysterious death of a Hollywood film star. Directed by Montgomery Tully (8412123)
3.30 Quiz Night. Pub and club competition (26765)
4.00 The Beat. Music and movies magazine (r) (89727)
5.00 Riviera. Glossy French drama serial (54901)
5.30 ITN Morning News with Phil Roman (76562). Ends at **6.00**

CHANNEL 4

6.00 Sesame Street Entertaining pre-school learning series (r) (6241351)
6.45 Dennis Animated adventures of a *Just William*-type character (9269697)
7.00 The Big Breakfast *presented* by Chris Evans and Gaby Roslin (70697)
9.00 You Bet Your Life American game show hosted by Bill Cosby (s) (39245)
9.30 Schools (315679
12.00 The Parliament Programme. Anne Perkins reports on business from both Houses and *previews this afternoon's Budget (46581)*
12.30 Sesame Street (63069)
1.30 Lift Off. Young children's entertainment. Last in the series (s) (69974)
2.00 Film: Fancy Pants (1950) starring Bob Hope and Lucille Ball. An amusing remake of *Ruggles of Red Gap* with Hope as an out-of-work English actor *being hired as a butler by newly-monied* Ball and taken to her New Mexico estate. Directed by George Marshall. (Teletext) (449622)
3.40 Gordon Bennett A short made by the New Zealand Film Commission about the two owners of a small concrete-laying company who hire an extra worker (3008448)
4.00 Pity the Poor Old Crocodile. A *Survival* documentary about the crocodile which has been on Earth for 140 million years, but now 21 of the 23 species are in danger of extinction (r) (332)
4.30 Countdown. Words and numbers game presented by Richard Whiteley (516)
5.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show Successful people who were ridiculed at school meet those classmates *who tormented them (Teletext) (s) (8031595)*
5.50 The Magic Roundabout. Classic children's series, narrated by Nigel Planer (r) (850167)
6.00 Mork and Mindy The first of a re-run of the American comedy series starring Robin Williams and Pam Dawber, with, in this extended episode, Henry Winkler and Penny Marshall (78622)
7.00 Channel 4 News with Jon Snow and Zeinab Badawi (Teletext) Weather (1581)
8.00 Free For All. David Fitzsimmons, a former drug addict now working for the rehabilitation of users, reports from Glasgow on how Temazepan abuse is a growing problem in Britain's cities, and there is a report on two miners' wives about women mobilising resistance to pit closures (2500)
8.30 The Pulse. Healthcare series presented by Emma Freud (4535)



A secret admirer: Heathcote Williams (9.00pm)

9.00 Without Walls: Every Time I Cross the Tamar, I Get Into Trouble. (Teletext) (s) See Choice (9871) and **Diana Unclothed.** (Teletext) (s) See Choice (84239)
10.00 Film: Lamb (1985) starring Liam Neeson, Hugh O'Connor and Ian Bannen. A *Film on Four* story of a young Christian Brother teaching at a west of Ireland remand school who takes one of his charges under his wing and makes for London. Directed by Colin Gregg (13943055)
12.05am Dream On. Adult American comedy about the love life of a divorced New York publisher (r). (Teletext) (s) (2264369)
12.35 The Nat King Cole Show (b/w). The guests are Harry Belafonte and the Nelson Riddle orchestra (6698949). Ends at **1.05**

VARIATIONS

ANGLIA
As London except: 5.10-5.40 Blockbusters (6517448) **6.00** Home and Away (831806) **6.25-7.00** Anglia News (850158) **7.30-8.00** Food Guide (603) **12.45** Film: The Osterman Weekend (627901) **2.40** The Little Picture Show (803040) **3.40** ITV Chart Show (6052611) **4.30** Riviera (76611) **5.00-5.30** Jobfinder (54901)

BORDER
As London except: 6.00 Lookaround (239) **6.30-7.00** Blockbusters (719) **7.30-8.00** Business First (603) **12.45** Film: The Osterman Weekend (627901) **2.40** The Little Picture Show (8030340) **3.40** ITV Chart Show (6052611) **4.30** Riviera (76611) **5.00-5.30** Jobfinder (54901)

CENTRAL
As London except: 1.15 A Country Practice (305448) **1.45-2.15** Home and Away (454239) **5.10-5.40** Blockbusters (6517448) **6.25-7.00** Central News (850158) **7.30-8.00** The Tuesday Special (603) **11.50** Film: They Came To Rob Las Vegas (92627210) **2.10** The Big E (5116562) *3.05 Sport AM* (3848479) **4.05** Jobfinder (3026901) **5.20-5.30** Asian Eye (2876253)

GRANADA
As London except: 1.15 A Country Practice (306448) **1.45-2.15** Home and Away (454239) **2.45-3.15** Gardener's Diary (216871) **5.10** Blockbusters (6517448) **6.00** Home and Away (239) **6.30-7.00** Granada Tonight (719) **7.30-8.00** House Style (603) **12.45** Film: The Osterman Weekend (627901) **2.40** The Little Picture Show (8030340) **3.40** ITV Chart Show (6052611) **4.30** Riviera (76611) **5.00-5.30** Jobfinder (54901)

HTV WEST
As London except: 1.45-2.15 Blockbusters (454239) **6.00** HTV News (293) **6.30-7.00** Good Health (719) **7.30-8.00** The Weekly Eco (603) **12.45** Film: The Osterman Weekend (627901) **2.40** The Little Picture Show (8030340) **3.40** ITV Chart Show (6052611) **4.30** Riviera (76611) **5.00-5.30** Jobfinder (54901)

HTV WALES
As HTV West except: 6.00 Wales at Six **6.30-7.00** A Case of Wine **7.30-8.00** A Welsh Life

MERIDIAN
As London except: 6.00 Meridian Tonight (239) **6.30-7.00** Blockbusters (719) **7.30-8.00** I Can Do That (603) **11.50** Pilgrim's Way (534055) **12.20-12.40** Coach (4277901) **5.00-5.30** Freescreen (54901)

TYNE TEES
As London except: 6.00 Tyne Tees Today (239) **6.30-7.00** Blockbusters (719) **7.30-8.00** Billy (603) **11.50** Sports Night Out (148622) **12.45** Comedy Tonight (6521104) **1.10** The Little Picture Show (8448104) **2.10** 60 Minutes (5116562) **3.05** Countdown (3848479) **4.05** Disaster Chronicles (33615949) **4.30-5.30** Jobfinder (77982)

ULSTER
As London except: 1.45-2.15 Fair City (454239) **6.00-7.00** UTV Live At Six (74852) **7.30-8.00** Bon Voyage (603) **11.50** Crime Story (148622) **12.45** Film: The Osterman Weekend (627901) **2.40** The Little Picture Show (8030340) **3.40** ITV Chart Show (6052611) **4.30** Riviera (76611) **5.00-5.30** Jobfinder (54901)

WESTCOUNTRY
As London except: 6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (74852) **7.30-8.00** On The Road to the Islands (603) **12.45** Film: The Osterman Weekend (Rutger Hauer, John Hurt, Craig T. Nelson) (627901) **2.40** The Little Picture Show (8030340) **3.40** ITV Chart Show (6052611) **4.30** Riviera (76611) **5.00-5.30** Jobfinder (54901)

YORKSHIRE
As London except: 5.55 Calendar (784993) **6.30-7.00** Blockbusters (719) **7.30-8.00** Billy (603) **11.50** Sports Night Out (148622) **12.45** Comedy Tonight (6521104) **1.10** The Little Picture Show (8448104) **2.10** 60 Minutes (5116562) **3.05** Countdown (3848479) **4.05** Disaster Chronicles: The New York Air Crash (33615949) **4.30-5.30** Jobfinder (77982)

S4C
Starts: 7.00 The Big Breakfast (70697) **9.00** You Bet Your Life (39245) **9.30** Schools (315679) **12.00** The Parliament Programme (46581) **12.30** Slot Meithrin (80603) **1.00** Sesame Street (65158) **2.00** The Late Late Show (44784) **3.00** The Oprah Winfrey Show (5290974) **3.55** Happy Days (4496968) **4.25** Slot 23 (3486055) **5.00** Countdown (6516) **5.30** Moviewatch (968) **6.00** News (414603) **6.20** Heno (760581) **7.00** Pobol Y Cwm (3652) **7.30** I'r Gad (245) **8.00** Steil (2500) **8.30** News (752852) **9.15** Teenage Health Freak (105326) **9.45** Short and Curlies (290871) **10.00** The Golden Girls (47210) **10.30** Pel-Droed (36158) **11.00** The Avengers (56061) **12.00** Without Walls (76123) **1.00** Close

NETWORK 2
Starts: 1.20 Bosco (53302041) **1.50** Racing from Cheltenham (17264500) **4.20** Children's Programmes **6.30** Home and Away (90906264) **7.00** News (41806974) **7.05** Cursai (20556697) **7.35** Perfect Strangers (70376516) **8.00** News (59331413) **8.05** Crossroads (90449719) **9.00** The Bill (51399210) **9.30** News (13606719) **9.35** ENG (60977158) **10.30** News (32065061) **10.50** The Big Race (95159500) **11.20** James Galway Invites... (79812561) **11.50** Close

SATELLITE

SKY ONE
6.00am The DJ Kat Show (38695516) **8.40** Lamb Chops Play-a-Long (6115622) **9.10** Cartoons (2469239) **9.30** The Pyramid Game (26239) **10.00** Strike It Rich (63887) **10.30** The Bold and the Beautiful (88581) **11.00** Hart to Hart (19500) **12.00** Falcon Crest (71090) **1.00pm** E Street (93516) **1.30** Another World (4350719) **2.15** Santa Barbara (935974) **2.45** Maude (934245) **3.15** Diff'rent Strokes (931158) **3.45** The DJ Kat Show (5774245) **5.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (1413) **6.00** Games World (8055) **6.30** E Street (5535) **7.00** Rescue (2142) **7.30** Family Ties (1719) **8.00** Sins: Joan Collins stars in the third and final part of the mini series (62055) **10.00** Designing Women (76790) **10.30** Star Trek: The Next Generation (60910) **11.30** Studs (89671) **12.00** Pages from Skytext

SKY NEWS
News on the hour.
6.00am Sunrise (87516) **6.30** News and Business Report (612264) **9.30** Nightline *(50041) 10.30 Beyond 2000 (86177)* **11.30** Business Report (80581) **12.30pm** News and Business Report (80993) **1.30** Good Morning America (61622) **2.00** Budget '93 (721351) **4.30** News and Business Report (1332) **5.00** Live at Five (52061) **6.30** News and Business Report (89087) **7.30** Target (2061) **10.30** Nightline (60992) **11.30** ABC News (80061) **12.30am** Beyond 2000 *(14456)* **1.30** *ABC World News (75384)* **2.30** Target (20949) **3.30** ABC World News (25494) **4.30** Beyond 2000 (19982) **5.30-6.00** ABC News (64776)

SKY MOVIES PLUS
6.15am Showcase (14510500)
10.00 End of the Line (1987). Railroad employees steal a steam engine (24871)
12.00 Echoes of a Summer (1976): Jodie Foster plays a young girl dying of heart disease (78719)
2.00pm Star Spangled Girl (1971): Neil Simon comedy in which Sandy Duncan falls for a couple of radical students (65142)
4.00 Sweet 15: A Mexican girl discovers that she is an illegal immigrant (9245)
6.00 End of the Line (as 10am) (58806)
8.00 The Return of Eliot Ness *(1991)*: Robert Stack chases gangsters in 1940s Chicago (53351)
10.00 Terminator 2: Judgment Day (1991): Arnold Schwarzenegger returns as the steely cyborg (58057413)
12.15am Out for Justice (1991). Steven Seagal and William Forsythe fight for supremacy in Brooklyn (919494)

1.50 State of Grace (1991). Sean Penn infiltrates a crime syndicate run by childhood friend Ed Harris (19821765)
4.00 Mindgames (1989): A hitch-hiker terrorises a family (961630). Ends at **6.00**

SKY MOVIES GOLD
6.30pm Raffles (1939, b/w): David Niven plays the gentleman cat-burglar (56142)
8.00 Frasier, The Lovable Lion (1973): A zookeeper tries to discover the secret of a lion's sexual potency (28603)
10.00 Blood Brothers (1978): Drama about a family of construction workers. Starring Richard Gere (993245). Ends at **11.55**

THE MOVIE CHANNEL
6.00am Captain Carey, USA (1950): Alan Ladd returns to Italy to find the man who betrayed him to the Nazis (23516)
8.00 Return to Treasure Island: Animated sequel to the classic (73210)
10.00 Winchester '73 (1950): Cowboy James Stewart doggedly hunts the outlaw who has stolen his rifle (22413)
12.00 The Cocoanuts (1929, b/w): The Marx Brothers check into a hotel (69061)
2.00pm Inspector Clouseau (1968): Alan Arkin stars as the French detective (63784)
4.00 Return to Treasure Island (as 8am) (7887)
6.00 Xanadu (1980): Olivia Newton-John plays the goddess of dance (56448)
8.00 Postcards from the Edge (1990): Meryl Streep plays an actress making a comeback after a drug overdose (51993)
10.00 Let It Ride (1990): Gambler Richard Dreyfuss has a hot tip (607061)
11.40 Last Wish *(1991): A mother asks her* daughter to help her die (950626)
1.20am Une Femme ou Deux (1985). Gérard Depardieu and Sigourney Weaver argue over a fossil woman (194859)
3.00 Sixteen Candles (1984). A girl develops a high school crush (220494)
4.35 Apache (1954): Western starring Burt Lancaster (2573272). Ends at **6.05**

SKY SPORTS
6.30am Stretch (16993) **7.00** Rugby League Academy (15500) **8.00** Surfing (96429) **9.00** Stretch (56581) **9.30** Premier League Football: Crystal Palace v Chelsea (65177) **11.30** Stretch (76784) **12.00** Tennis (985622) **3.00pm** US PGA Golf. Upton International from Florida (11718) **5.00** Cod Fishing (3413) **6.00** Soccer News (757531) **6.03** Wrestling (75158) **7.00** FA Cup Football: Sheffield Utd v Blackburn Rovers (935402) **10.00** British League Basketball (78871) **12.00-3.00am** ATP Tennis

EUROSPORT
7.30am Step Aerobics (42806) **8.00** Alpine Skiing (18697) **9.00** Indoor Athletics (68090) **11.00** Handball (55326) **12.00** Eurogoals (91142) **1.00pm** Figure Skating (13806) **3.00** *Free Style Skiing (72968) 4.00 Indoor* Funboard Meeting (57603) **5.00** Eurogoals (8581) **6.00** Eurofun (3535) **6.30** Eurosport News (4887) **7.00** Handball (43535) **9.00** Boxing (94622) **11.00** Snooker (49719) **12.00-12.30am** Eurosport News (51291)

UK GOLD
6.00am Rainbow (52081871) **6.15** Button Moon (52066326) **6.30** The All New Popeye Show (8963332) **7.00** Beverly Hills Teens (2390423) **7.30** Neighbours (2302264) **8.00** Sons and Daughters (1919974) **8.30** EastEnders (1918245) **9.00** The Bill (1836697) **9.30** When the Boat Comes In (6911429) **10.30** Casualty (3259697) **11.30** Don't Wait Up (9355041) **12.00** Sons and Daughters (1912061) **12.30pm** Neighbours (6121887) **1.00** EastEnders (2218500) **1.30** The Bill (6120158) **2.00** Porridge (2840887) **2.30** Bread (5536061) **3.00** Dallas (6206577) **4.00** Dynasty (7751662) **5.00** Candid Camera (2768239) **5.30** Give Us a Clue (5547177) **6.00** Neighbours (5537790) **6.30** When the Boat Comes In (1748239) **7.30** Porridge (5451326) ***8.00 EastEnders (2853351) 8.30*** Bread (2849158) **9.00** Casualty (2618719) **10.00** The Bill (1913790) **10.30** Ripping Yarns (1826210) **11.00** Dick Emery (6301121) **11.30** Film: The Bride Walks Out (1936, b/w) starring Barbara Stanwyck, Gene Raymond and Robert Young (2496041) **1.00-2.00am** Video Bites (8002272)

THE CHILDREN'S CHANNEL
6.00am Stories Without Words (61516) **6.30** Non-Stop Cartoon Capers (9624326) **7.15** Kissy Fur (578210) **8.45** Jack in the Box (344968) **10.45** Stories without Words (292326) **11.15** Non-Stop Cartoon Capers (8674177) **12.00** Boy Dominic, Dynamo Duck (81245) **12.30pm** Mask (36239) **1.00** Jack in the Box (967841) **3.00** Kissy Fur (10142) **4.00** Spiff and Hercules (6448) **4.30** The Legend of White Fang (5332) **5.00** Pugwall (7448) **5.30** Saved by the Bell (3784) **6.00-7.00** Fame (17158)

RADIO 3

6.35am Open University: The Dreaming of the Bones by W.B. Yeats **6.55** Weather
7.00 On Air: Chris de Souza presents music, news and weather. Including Rimsky-Korsakov (Scherzo, Symphony No 1); Mozart (Concert Rondo in A, K386); Joachim (Overture, Hamlet); Lyapunov (Rhapsody on Ukrainian Themes)
9.00 Composer of the Week: Marc-Antoine Charpentier. Nicholas Anderson presents music by the French baroque composer. Overture, Le malade imaginaire; Concert pour quatre parties de violes; Actéon
10.00 Morning Sequence: Schumann (Adagio and Allegro in A flat, Op 70); Haydn (Symphony No 22 in E flat, Philosopher); Mozart (Oboe Quartet in F, K370); Haydn (Horn Concerto No 1 in D); Schnittke (String Trio): Schumann (Three Romances, Op 94); Mozart (Horn Concerto No 1 in D, K412)
12.00 Paris Touch'd by the Italian Flame: Rejouissance performs Montéclair (Les Delices Champestres); Rameau (Le berger fidèle); Montéclair (La Morte di Lucretia); Clérambault *(Apollon et Doris)* (r).
1.00pm News
1.05 BBC Scottish SO under Jiri Starek plays Smetana (Overture, The Bartered Bride); Schumann (Violin Concerto in D minor; Miriam Fried); Dvořák (Overtures: In Nature's Realm; Carnival; Othello)
2.30 London in the 1920s: Stephen Plaistow presents contemporary recordings by Nellie Melba, Eva Turner and Fritz Kreisler. Including Walton (Façade); Holst (Egdon Heath); Vaughan Williams (Kyrie, Mass in G minor); Bach (Fugue, Sonata No 3 in C for solo violin, BWV 1005); Varèse (Hyperprism); Bridge (Enter Spring)
4.30 Bluebird Blues: 1933 — St Louis. Francis Wilford-Smith looks at the development of the blues in the 1930s and 1940s
5.00 In Tune: Andrew Green talks to the psychiatrist Anthony Storr, author of *Music in Mind*
7.30 Pebble Mill, live from Studio One: Dmitri Alexeev plays Schumann (Arabeske in C, Op 18; Symphonic Studies, Op 13 and Op posth). **8.15 Be My Baby.** See Choice. **8.35** Scriabin (Mazurkas: Op 3 Nos 7 and 9; Op 25 No 3); Rachmaninov (Preludes: Op 32 No 1 in C; Op 32 No 2 in B flat minor; Op 23 No 6 in E flat; Op 32 No 12 in G sharp minor; Op 32 No 5 in G; Op 23: No 7 in C minor; No 4 in *D; No 3 in D minor;* No 1 in F sharp minor; No 2 in B flat
9.30 Telling Stories: The Death of the Elms, by Georgina Hammick. Read by Diana Bishop
9.55 James Dillon: Ignis noster (BBC Symphony Orchestra *under Alexander Lazarev*)
10.20 Henry Purcell's Fantasias: Fretwork performs the repertoire for consort (r)
10.45 Night Waves talks to Ben Okri about his latest book; and reviews *Chatsky* at the Almeida Theatre
11.30 French Impressions: Richard Langham Smith presents the last of four programmes. Dukas (La Péri); Debussy (Jeux); Koechlin (Les Bandar-Log) **12.30-12.35am News**
1.00-2.25 Night School (except in Scotland: as R5 at 1.05pm)
2.30-3.10 Night School Extra

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping Forecast **6.00** News Briefing, incl **6.03** Weather **6.10** Farming Today **6.25** Prayer for the Day with Judge Richard Hamilton **6.30** Today, incl **6.30, 7.00, 7.30, *8.00, 8.30*** News **6.55, 7.55** Weather **7.45** Thought for the Day **8.40** Yesterday in Parliament **8.58** Weather
9.00 News
9.05 Call Nick Ross: 071-580 4444. Lines open from 8am
10.00-10.30 News; Drif's Guide to the Northern Line (FM only): Drif Field visits second-hand bookshops along the Northern Line on the London Underground, between Wimbledon and Edgware
10.00 Daily Service (LW only)
10.15 The Prophet (LW only): The writings of the poet and philosopher Kahlil Gibran. Art Malik reads the final extract
10.30 Woman's Hour: Corinne Julius reports on how a parent's redundancy affects children. Incl **11.00 News**
11.30 Medicine Now, with Geoff Watts
12.00 You and Yours, with Michael Collie
12.25pm Best of My Word! Michael O'Donnell presents highlights between Frank Muir, Denis Norden and guests Dilys Powell and Antonia Fraser **12.55** Weather
1.00 The World at One
1.40 The Archers (r) **1.55** Shipping
2.00 News; Thirty-Minute Theatre: How I Met Franz. See Choice
2.30 Richard Baker Compares Notes *with guitar players* Martin Taylor and Nicola Hall
3.00-5.50 News; PM Budget Special (FM only from **3.30**): The Chancellor's speech, live from the House of Commons. With analysis by Wendy Austin, Frank Partridge and Vincent Duggleby, and reaction from the City, industry and the unions. James Naughtie reports from Westminster, and Hugh Sykes gauges the post-Budget response at the Hatfield Galleria
3.30 Budget Speech (LW only): The Chancellor of the Exchequer's speech in full, followed by John Smith's reply as leader of the opposition **5.50** Shipping Forecast **5.55** Weather
6.00 Six O'Clock News
6.30 The Board Game: Nigel Cassidy quizzes Peter Day, Alastair Ross Goobey, Howard Hodgson and Nigel Whittaker
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers
7.20 File on 4: Wendy Jones reports on the government's Budget for jobs
8.00 Science Now (r)
8.30 Contemporaries of Christ: Simon Mayo reflects on the Passion
8.45 In Touch: For people with a visual handicap
9.15 Kaleidoscope: Paul Vaughan reviews Margaret Forster's biography of Daphne du Maurier; and the composer and flautist Dave Heath talks about his work, including his commission for Nigel Kennedy
9.45 The Financial World Tonight, with Roger White **9.59** Weather
10.00 The World Tonight, with Alexander MacLeod
10.35 The Budget: *A statement* by Norman Lamont, the Chancellor of the Exchequer
10.45 A Book at Bedtime: Spoiled Salt, by Barbara Neely. Read by Esther Rolle
11.00 The Radio Programme, with Laurie Taylor (r)
11.30 Today in Parliament
12.00 News, incl **12.27** Weather **12.33** Shipping **12.43** As World Service (LW only)

Thirty-Minute Theatre: How I Met Franz. *Radio 4, 2.00pm.*
John Antrobus's play, correctly described as a modern fairy story, is *The Frog Prince* updated to a council housing estate and trailing whiffs of the theatre of the absurd behind it. It is a comedy all right, but running through it is a vein of serious comment about loneliness and the hunger for attention it can bring. Patricia Hayes celebrates her sixtieth year of broadcasting with her role of the estate pest who is magically transformed into a nuisance of a different order. She is one of the glories of radio drama, and in his play, Antrobus has given this gem a setting that is worthy of her.

Be My Baby. *Radio 3, 8.15pm.*
No connection exists between Marina Warner's short story, the Schumann pieces that precede it and the Scriabin and Rachmaninov that follow it. In any case, the only context it needs is the contemporary crime scene because *the* "I" of the story is a woman charged with abducting a baby. *Be My Baby* is read by Alice Arnold. It comes from Warner's first collection of stories, *The Mermaids in the Basement,* which was published last month.
Peter Davalle

RADIO 1

FM Stereo and **MW. 4.00am** Bruno Brookes with The Early Breakfast Show (**FM** only) **6.00** Simon Mayo **9.00** Simon Bates **12.30pm** Newsbeat **12.45** Jakki Brambles **3.00** Steve Wright in the Afternoon **6.00** Lynn Parsons's Mega Hits **6.30** News '93 **7.00** Evening Session with Jo Whiley **9.00** The Year of the Reds: Mick Hucknall talks to Paul Gambaccini about the success of Simply Red (r) **10.00** Nicky *Campbell Goes into the Night* **12.00-4.00am** *Nicky Horne (FM only)*

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. **5.00am** Sarah Kennedy with The Early Show **6.15** Pause for Thought **7.00** Wake Up to Wogan **9.15** Pause for Thought **9.30** Ken Bruce **11.00** John Dunn **2.00pm** Ed Stewart **3.30** Budget Special **6.00** Christ Stuart **7.30** Hayes over Britain **9.00** Star Quality: Elisabeth Welch talks about her career in musical theatre **10.00** Tango Trail: A tribute to Astor Piazzolla (3/4) **10.30** The Jamesons **12.05am** Jazz Parade **12.35** Steve Madden with Night Ride **3.00-5.00am** Alex Lester

RADIO 5

News and sport on the hour until **7.00pm.** **4.25am** Test Match Special. Sri Lanka v England **8.00** World Service **8.30** Danny Baker's Morning Edition **9.30** Johnnie Walker with The AM Alternative **11.30** BFBS Worldwide **12.30pm** Learn to Earn for the over-25s **1.05** Schools: Infant Science — See for Yourself: 1.20 First Steps in Drama, 1.40 Wordplay; **1.50** Singing Together; **2.10** Time to Move **2.30** Cheltenham Festival: Waterford Castle Arkle Challenge Trophy **(2.50)**; Smurfit Champion Hurdle (3.30); Ritz Club National Hunt Chase (4.05) **4.30** Five Aside **7.15** The Fib and Other *Stories, by George Layton (2/5)* **7.30** *Football Plus* **10.10** *Earshot* **12.00-12.10am** *News,* Sport **4.25-6.30** Test Match Special: Sri Lanka v England

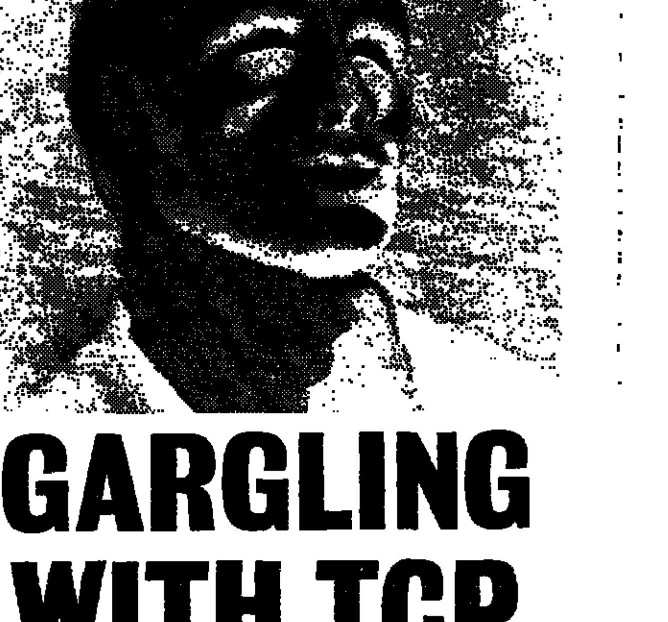
WORLD SERVICE

All times in **GMT. 4.30** Business Report **4.40** Travel and Weather **4.45** Programmes in German **5.30** Europe Today **5.59** Weather **6.00** News **6.14** Travel **6.15** The World Today **6.30** Programmes in French **6.59** Weather **7.00** Newsdesk **7.30** New Ideas **7.50** from India to English **8.00** News **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** Concert Hall **9.00** News **9.05** Business Report **9.15** India's Children of Courage **9.30** Sparks from a Precious Stone **9.45** Sports Roundup **10.00** Discovery **10.30** Eastern Sounds **11.00** Newsdesk **11.29** Travel **11.30** BBC English **11.45** Mittagsmagazin **11.59** Business Update **Noon** News **12.10pm** Words of Faith **12.15** Multitrack 1 **12.45** Sports Roundup **1.00** Newshour **2.05** Outlook **2.30** Off the Shelf: Raag Darbari **2.45** Mastersingers **3.00** News **3.15** A Jolly Good Show **3.50** Sportsworld: Cheltenham Champion Hurdle **4.00** News **4.15** BBC English **4.29** News in French **4.30** Programmes in German **5.00** News and Business Report **5.14** Travel **5.15** BBC English **5.30** Programmes in French **6.00** Newsdesk **6.30** Programmes in German **8.00** News **8.10** The World Today **8.25** Words of Faith **8.30** Europe Tonight **9.00** Newshour **10.00** News **10.15** Megamix **10.45** Sports Roundup **11.00** News **11.05** Business Report **11.15** Concert *Hall Midnight Newsdesk* **12.30am** *Omnibus* **1.00** *News* **1.05** Outlook **1.30** A Bad Press? **1.45** Country Style **2.00** Newsdesk **2.30** Development '93 **3.00** News **3.15** Sports Roundup **3.30** Discovery **4.00** News **4.15** Sparks from a Precious Stone

CLASSIC FM

6.00am Nick Bailey **9.00** Robert Booth **12.00** Susannah Simons **2.00pm** Lunchtime Concerto. Mendelssohn (Piano Concerto No 1); Beethoven (Symphony No 8) **3.00** Petroc Trelawny **6.00** Classic Reports **7.00** Classic Opera Guide **8.00** Classic FM Concert: Elgar (Pomp and Circumstance March No 1), Falla (Nights in the Garden of Spain) **10.00** Adrian Love **1.00-6.00am** Denis Tuohy

FREQUENCIES: RADIO 1: 1053kHz/285m; 1089kHz/275m; FM-97.6-99.8. **RADIO 2:** FM-88-90.2. **RADIO 3:** FM-90.2-92.4. **RADIO 4:** 198kHz/1515m; FM-92.4-94.6. **RADIO 5:** *693kHz/433m;* 909kHz/330m. **LBC:** 1152kHz/261m; FM 97.3. **CAPITAL:** 1548kHz/194m; FM-95.8. **GLR:** 1458kHz/206m; FM 94.9; **WORLD SERVICE:** MW 648kHz/463m. **CLASSIC FM:** FM-100-102.
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Fletcher baffled as Tufnell and Emburey come off second best

Lewis fights to keep England in contention

FROM PETER BALL IN COLOMBO

SRI LANKA ended the third day of the Test match here yesterday on 408 for eight, 28 ahead with two first-innings wickets in hand. By the standards of their Indian tour, England had a good day.

It was a day of fluctuating fortunes. Sri Lanka established early command, Hathurusinghe, Aravinda de Silva and Ranatunga scoring freely before England, with Lewis the spearhead, mounted an impressive counter-attack with the new ball.

Sri Lanka's subsequent collapse was neither as precipitous nor as final as England's had been. Rather than five wickets going down for 22, five went down for 46 as Sri Lanka declined from 329 for three to 376 for eight.

In high humidity, the recovery spoke volumes for the fitness and determination of the England bowlers. Lewis's figures of three for 53 in 24 overs hardly did justice to his efforts. His stamina in a spell after tea, when he took two for nine in seven overs, was as impressive as his pace and hostility, and both Jarvis and Malcolm played their part.

They were well supported by some excellent out-cricket. Stewart had an outstanding day behind the stumps with three catches, two of them spectacular, and a smart stumping. His captaincy was not affected. He thrives on being in the thick of the action.

England's spinners, however, continued to toil for little reward on a pitch on which the two Sri Lanka off spinners had found every assistance. Tufnell had a tidy spell in the morning, only de Silva and Ranatunga getting after him, but neither he nor Emburey found consistent turn.

"I can't explain why their spinners turned it and ours didn't," Keith Fletcher, the England team manager, said. "It looked like two totally different pitches. At least in Bombay and Madras our spinners turned it as well; today they haven't. Their bowlers must spin it more."

That provides the main worry for England when they resume tomorrow after today's rest day. Providing Tillekeratne's efforts at shielding Muralitharan are not extended too long, the lead should be negligible. With Sri Lanka batting last, England should be slight favourites, but if the pitch begins to wear seriously, Sri Lanka are the better equipped to exploit it, and to survive on it.

Lewis made an early breakthrough yesterday, Stewart diving low to his right to scoop up a stunning catch in front of first slip as Hathurusinghe sparred outside off stump. Tufnell claimed England's only other success before lunch, Stewart whipping off the bails as Gurusinha aimed several miles over mid-wicket and lunged forward as he uncoiled.

That brought in Ranatunga to join de Silva in their stand of 127 in 34 overs. The pair punished the two spinners with lusty blows. De Silva lifted Emburey over the fence at mid-wicket for one six and Tufnell straight for another, but soon Ranatunga was matching him blow for blow.

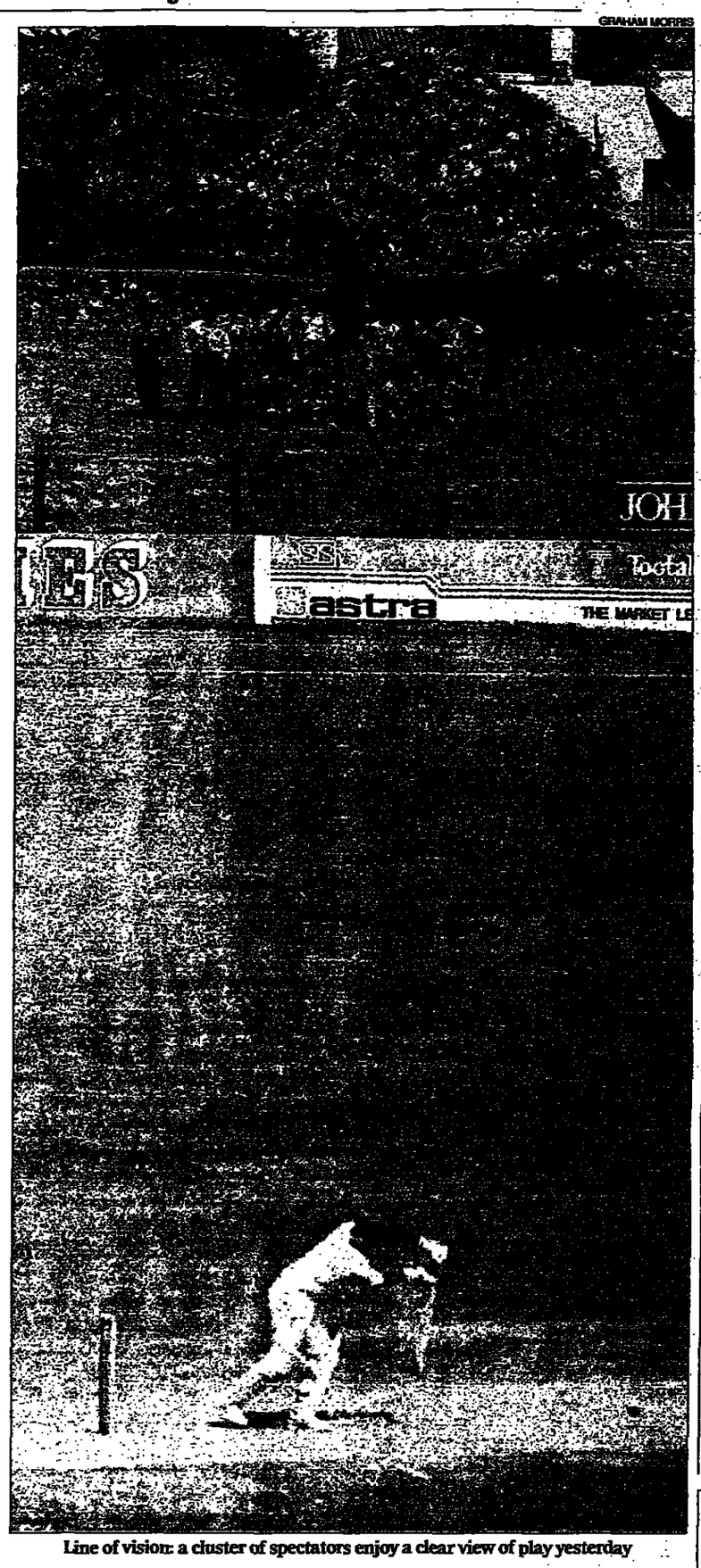
With its clusters of people sitting under the trees, its lawns and swimming pool, the Sinhalese Sports Club could be mistaken for an England country-house ground, and that picture was complete as a band arrived to play in a neighbouring field in mid-afternoon.

As Ranatunga lifted Tufnell over mid-wicket for a six on his way to reaching 50 off only 79 balls, the band struck up that old naval favourite, *Blaze Away*. The new ball arrived immediately, however, and it was the England seam bowlers who responded to the injunction.

Malcolm might have made the first strike but Stewart dropped de Silva going down the leg side. The batsman fell to Jarvis in the next over, Stewart this time holding on to a more difficult leg-side chance.

Sri Lanka were 330 for four at tea, but after the interval Lewis charged in purposefully. Stewart held his third catch to end Ranatunga's stay and Atherton took a brilliant one-handed diving catch at backward gully off a full-blooded cut to remove the dangerous Jayasuriya. Tillekeratne, however, controlled the strike well enough to become the fifth batsman to pass 50 in the innings.

N Zealand in control, page 42
Kambli falls short, page 42



Line of vision: a cluster of spectators enjoy a clear view of play yesterday

COLOMBO SCOREBOARD

England won toss

ENGLAND

First Innings 380 (R A Smith 129, G A Hick 68, A J Stewart 63; K P J Warnaweera 4 for 90, M Muralitharan 4 for 118).

SRI LANKA: First Innings

		6s	4s	Min	Ball
R S Mahanama c Smith b Emburey	64	0	11	102	83
Mistimed big hit to silly point					
U C Hathurusinghe c Stewart b Lewis	59	0	8	195	146
Reaching for outswinger					
A P Gurusinha st Stewart b Tufnell	43	0	5	159	124
Stumbled forward playing defensively					
P A de Silva c Stewart b Jarvis	80	2	6	205	148
Edged leg glance to wicketkeeper					
*A Ranatunga c Stewart b Lewis	64	1	6	167	119
Outside edge to wicketkeeper					
H P Tillekeratne not out	51	0	6	158	101
S T Jayasuriya c Atherton b Lewis	4	0	1	15	8
Square cut to deep backward point					
†A M de Silva c Gatting b Emburey	9	0	1	46	28
Deflected ball to short leg					
C P H Ramanayake c Lewis b Jarvis	1	0	0	13	13
Diving catch off sharp edge to gully					
M Muralitharan not out	7	0	0	46	24
Extras (b 2, lb 12, w 1, nb 11)	26				
Total (8 wkts, 562min, 130 overs)	408				

K P J Warnaweera to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-99 (Hathurusinghe 28), 2-153 (Gurusinha 19), 3-203 (P A de Silva 25), 4-330 (Ranatunga 61), 5-339 (Tillekeratne 6), 6-349 (Tillekeratne 12), 7-371 (Tillekeratne 23), 8-376 (Tillekeratne 27).

BOWLING: Malcolm 19-6-45-0 (nb 1) (5-3-9-0, 2-0-7-0, 10-2-26-0, 2-1-3-0); Jarvis 22-1-68-2 (nb 4, w 1) (6-0-26-0, 5-0-13-0, 4-0-16-1, 1-0-2-0, 6-1-11-1); Lewis 24-4-53-3 (nb 2) (5-0-18-0, 6-1-9-1, 3-0-8-0, 7-3-9-2, 3-0-9-0); Tufnell 30-4-106-1 (nb 7) (10-0-43-0, 3-1-7-0, 17-3-56-1); Emburey 27-5-85-2 (nb 1) (7-1-22-1, 11-3-38-0, 2-1-5-0, 6-0-25-1, 1-0-5-0); Hick 8-0-27-0 (1-0-1-0, 7-0-26-0).

INTERMEDIATE SCORES: Second day: Tea: 19-0 (Mahanama 9, Hathurusinghe 6) in 9 overs. 50: 66 min, 14.5 ov. 100: 107 min, 23.5 ov. Close: 140-1 (Hathurusinghe 53, Gurusinha 12) in 40 ov. Third day: 150: 188 min, 46 ov. 200: 258 min, 62.1 ov. Lunch: 219-3 (P A de Silva 29, Ranatunga 11) in 70 ov. 250: 319 min, 78.4 ov. New ball: 297-3 (90 ov). 300: 383 min, 90.2 ov. Tea: 330-4 (Ranatunga 61, Tillekeratne 0) in 98 ov. 350: 454 min, 107.2 ov. 400: 548 min, 127.1 ov.

Umpires: K T Francis and T M Samarasinghe.

League asked to delay vital matches

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

THE football championship showdown involving Aston Villa, Manchester United and Norwich City may be switched to Sunday, May 9, to satisfy satellite television's demand for live coverage. The Premier League confirmed yesterday that it is prepared to delay United's and Villa's final games, away to Wimbledon and Queens Park Rangers respectively, to allow BSkyB to have cameras at both.

If Norwich, drawn back into contention by Sunday's draw between their rivals, are still involved going into the final weekend, their game away to Middlesbrough will also be postponed 24 hours.

All games will kick off simultaneously to give nobody an advantage. But the plan will not please United's supporters, who could be forced to travel to Selhurst Park on the notoriously unreliable Sunday public transport services.

Craig Brewin, of the Football Supporters' Association, said: "Fans are being told 'Like it or lump it'. Football decided several months ago to sell its soul and this is a consequence which will please no one except the exclusive few with satellite dishes."

Sky, having paid £304 million for the five-year joint deal with the BBC, believe it has bought the right to be in at the title death and Adrian Cook, assistant secretary of the Premier League, said: "Obviously, they want to be where the championship side is on that last weekend.

"It's hoped that we will be able to set aside a couple of matches for the Sunday, one of which will result in a club winning the championship."

The proposals could bring to a head the simmering row over the way Sky, with its saturation coverage, has dictated the season. It has already taken over two key weekends as the three protagonists enter their last nine games.

☐ Wycombe Wanderers, the Vauxhall FA Trophy favourites, have been drawn against Sutton United in the semi-finals. The other tie pits Runcorn against Witton Albion.

Roxburgh gives new faces chance to shine

BY RODDY FORSYTH

ALTHOUGH it was intended that Scotland should use next week's international with Germany as a World Cup warm-up match, it appears Andy Roxburgh, the Scotland football coach, will learn little of immediate practical value from the fixture. Although he announced a squad of 21 yesterday, there is every chance that the Scots' starting line-up will have a decidedly experimental look about it.

What is certain is that no English clubs will be represented. Important club fixtures in England next week have deprived Roxburgh of players such as Durie, Nevin and McAllister, and the inclusion of seven uncapped players in the squad makes it probable that two or three at least will get their first chance in a dark blue jersey.

Roxburgh believes that he will suffer the usual constraints caused by injuries. "I have certain ideas about the team I would like to field, but the one certainty is that all of these players will not turn up for our first training session on Sunday," he said.

"I anticipate the usual wait to see who is fit and that will determine how we proceed from there. We have enough regulars in the side to guarantee some continuity if they are available and we will certainly take the opportunity to evaluate some of the players who have been pushing to get into the squad."

Already, however, Roxburgh has lost Jess, whose broken ankle deprived the Aberdeen forward of a chance to add to his exciting display against Malta last month with a more searching examination of his character and talent by the world champions.

SCOTLAND: A Goram (Rangers), N Walker (Heart of Midlothian), S Wright (Aberdeen), T Boyd (Celtic), M Malpas (Dundee United), C Levein (Heart of Midlothian), A McLaren (Heart of Midlothian), A McLeish (Aberdeen), D McPherson (Rangers), D Robertson (Rangers), B Grant (Aberdeen), J Collins (Celtic), I Durrant (Rangers), S McCall (Rangers), P McStay (Celtic), A McCoist (Rangers), D Jackson (Hibernian), D Ferguson (Dundee United), S Booth (Aberdeen), J Robertson (Heart of Midlothian), D Shearer (Aberdeen).

GERMANY: A Köpke (FC Nuremburg), B Illgner (Cologne), G Buchwald (VFB Stuttgart), T Helmer (Borussia Dortmund), O Thon (Bayern Munich), J Kohler (Juventus), R Weber (Eintracht Frankfurt), U Bein (Eintracht Frankfurt), T Doll (Lazio), S Ellenberg (Fiorentina), T Hässler (AS Roma), L Matthäus (Bayern Munich), A Möller (Juventus), M Sammer (Borussia Dortmund), M Zorc (Borussia Dortmund), J Klinsmann (AS Monaco), K-H Riedle (Lazio), A Thom (Bayer Leverkusen).

Guscott's escape exposes refereeing blind spot

BY DAVID HANDS
RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

IT WAS a bad weekend for English rugby: a fatality after an incident in the league match between Hendon and Centaurs, two first division dismissals and a severe reprimand for three Harlequins, two of them England players, for wearing illegal studs. Yet a third international was seen on television to get away with an offence that might have resulted in his own sending off.

Jeremy Guscott is fortunate to be proceeding towards the climax of the five nations' championship in Dublin this weekend. The Bath and England centre was clearly responsible for the indignant explosion that led to Fran Clough, his opposite number, being sent off in the Courage championship match against Wasps. That he stepped on Clough's chest with his usual elegance, rather than a malevolent stamping, is neither here nor there.

Whether it cost Wasps the match and possibly the league title is open to debate but it did not help them. David Matthews, the referee, has been much criticised but he could rule only on what he saw. The surprise was that the touch judge, David Thomas, missed Guscott's action which, given the general warning already issued to all players, would surely have meant his expulsion and a likely 60-day ban.

It would also have cost Guscott his international place and, conceivably, a British Isles tour. There is still the possibility that he may be cited by his own union under the new procedure introduced this season and, by coincidence, there is a meeting of the Somerset disciplinary committee tonight.

Given the clarity of the televised recording of the incident, there seems every chance of Wasps pressing a speedy and successful case that Clough has been punished enough and that a 30-day suspension is not applicable. If the authorities consider otherwise, Clough will miss the next two league matches and the Pilkington Cup semi-final with Harlequins.

In such circumstances, you would think the best referees would be employed at the most significant games. Yet one of England's international panel was on duty in the second division and Fred Howard, who many still regard as the country's leading referee, was nowhere to be seen in the top flight. Since he was dropped from the panel in December, he has had only three leading games.

Players dropped from the national team can go back to their clubs and restate their case in the highest arena the domestic game affords. Not so referees, who take matches the authorities award them on a two-monthly rota.

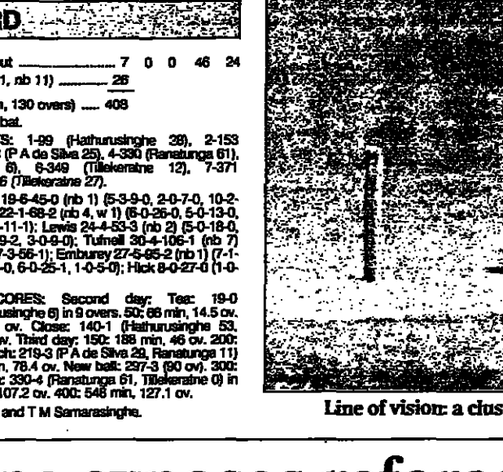
It is a criminal waste of talent and it will be even more wasteful should Howard, who is still bitter about his treatment, retire from refereeing at the end of this season. It is only three years since another international panel referee, Ian Bullerwell, did the same after losing his place on the panel and it does not augur well for the game that men still young in refereeing terms should be lost so early.

The system that allows the best referees, having had their chance before Christmas to stake a claim for international honours, to take a back seat in the second half of the season, when critical promotion and relegation issues are on the line, demands a review. It will be enforced, anyway, next season when home and away league matches become the norm and there will be more matches.

In the dog-eat-dog days at the end of this season, when relegation threatens so many, there will be more tense meetings requiring the presence of the best officials. Howard is still one of them.

Player dies, page 3

CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 3047



ACROSS
1 Food craving (6)
5 Lure (6)
8 Jump (4)
9 Sufficient (8)
10 Upper Egypt capital (6)
12 Passing pique (4)
15 Terrified (6,2,5)
16 Dressed (4)
17 Hang freely (6)
19 Responsive (8)
21 Exhale (4)
22 Dozy (6)
23 Time to come (6)

DOWN
2 Professionally unscrupulous (9)
3 Breach (3)
4 Emotional composition (8)
5 Ship's team (4)
6 Crudely cut (5-4)
7 Unfashionable (3)
11 Hoedown party (4,5)
13 Decisive moment (5,4)
14 Gilding sheet (4,4)
18 Capably (4)
20 Inch thousandth (3)
21 Piece (3)

SOLUTIONS TO NO 3046

ACROSS: 1 Lackadaisical 8 Nomad 9 Lustily 10 Ere 11 Staid 12 Galileo 14 Floppy 16 Breton 20 Eulogia 23 Pooch 24 Mir 25 Ingenue 26 Expel 27 Grasp at a straw

DOWN: 1 Long-suffering 2 Cembalo 3 Added up 4 Allege 5 Sisal 6 Chill 7 Lay down the law 13 Ire 15 Pro 17 Repress 18 Trooper 19 Lament 21 Logia 22 Gen up

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WITHERING MOVE

By Raymond Keene, Chess Correspondent

This position is from the game Landenbergue — Roder, Bern 1993. The players are barely out of the opening and yet white's next move forced black's resignation! The key to white's killer blow is in the constricted state of the black king.

Solution on page 40.

SPOOKY WORDPLAY

By PHILIP HOWARD

BELCHER
a. A cross-bred greyhound
b. A neckerchief
c. Successor to Stephenson's Rocket

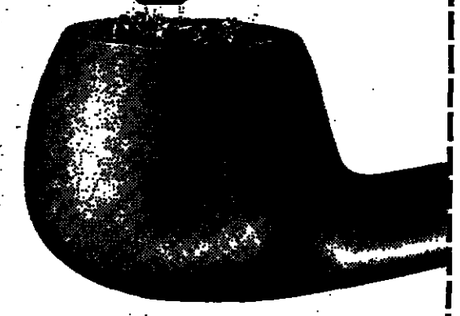
BALBRIGGAN
a. A knitted cotton fabric
b. A border raider
c. A fairy bridge

MERRIMAC
a. A clown
b. A Hogmanay first-footer
c. An Ironclad

DOCTOR SLAMMER
a. A would-be duellist
b. A prison governor
c. A bare-knuckle prize-fighter

Answers on page 40

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IMPORTANT: Please sign below that you are a smoker aged 18 or over.
_____
☐ Please tick if you do not wish to receive details of further offers.
Brand smoked *most often*: _____
Flake ☐ Ready Rubbed ☐
Amount smoked *per week*:
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Make of last pipe bought:
Please specify: _____
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